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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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☞ Communications, designed for publication, must be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and a Choice Reading for the Family.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial Newspaper Decisions.—1. Any person who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice, whether directed to his name or another, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for the payment.

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FIRST EDITION.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 17, 1874.

SENATE.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill to revise, amend and consolidate the laws relating to the security of life on board vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam, and the reading thereof was continued. After the bill had been read through, Mr. BOUTWELL moved that it be laid over till Tuesday next, as an officer of the Treasury Department who had been authorized to make an examination into certain provisions of the bill, had not completed such examination. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, from the Committee on Agriculture, reported back the bill to enable the Commissioners of Agriculture to make a special distribution of seeds, with an amendment that $50,000 instead of $50,000 be appropriated for the purpose. The amendment was agreed to and the bill passed.

The Senate then resumed consideration of the bill to provide for the better government of the District of Columbia, the pending question being on the motion of Mr. THURMAN to strike out the word "Regents" wherever it occurred and insert in its place "Commissioners," so that the Board should be styled Board of Commissioners instead of Board of Regents. Agreed to.

Mr. MORTON said there was a feature of this bill to which he was entirely opposed. There was no doubt that the bill had been worked up carefully by those who had charge of it, but it provided for disfranchising the people of the District—150,000 or 170,000 persons. It took from them the power of self-government, and put the government of the District in the hands of three men. In that respect the bill was anti-republican and anti-democratic, and he did not feel that he could vote for it without violating the spirit of the Constitution. He did not believe the troubles of this District grew out of the rights of suffrage. He believed right of local self-government here was just as important as it was in New York or any State, and did not think the Constitution of the United States sustained the argument of his friend (Morrill) that Congress had exclusive control over the District and could abolish the right of suffrage here. He (Morton) knew what would be said about abolishing the right. It would be said that it was intended to get clear of colored suffrage. He knew that there were people in this District who were willing to be disfranchised to get clear of the colored vote. From the beginning this city has had a local government. Congress had the same control over the Territories as over the District, and it would not be argued that Congress had the right to deprive the people of the Territories of the right of suffrage. If Congress had power to depute the government of this District to three men, as this bill provides, it had the power to depute the government to the whole of the people of the District. At the proper time he proposed to offer an amendment to provide for the election of three Commissioners by the people of the District, instead of their appointment by the President.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, said this bill violates no principle of local government. It never was intended that local government should exist here. The authority of Congress over the District was supreme. The right of local self-government could not be violated when no such government existed. It was not expedient to have suffrage in this District, and any Senator conversant with the various classes of authority here in years past must agree with him. He had not the slightest doubt that Congress had exclusive control over the District, and could confer or withhold suffrage as it thought proper. Negro suffrage had been a very sickening business to the people of this District. He then spoke of the clause in reference to the excise board and said that section was intended to invade the domain of morals under the form of legislation. Vice and immorality generally followed the track of these prohibitory laws. The power given to this excise board was unlimited in regard to prescribing regulations under which liquor licenses could be issued. He spoke of the unhappy results which had occurred in the State of Maine from attempts to regulate the liquor traffic. He moved to strike out that portion of the bill which required every person taking out liquor licenses to give bond for faithfully observing the conditions thereof, and for the payment of such portion of license fee as shall not be paid in advance, and to insert in place thereof a provision that fees for license to be paid into the Treasury of the United States in advance. Rejected.

Mr. MORTON moved to strike out the clause requiring the Board of Commissioners to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and insert in lieu thereof a clause requiring said Commissioners to be elected by the qualified voters of the District.

Mr. BAYARD opposed the amendment of Mr. Morton to make the Commissioners elective, and said the evil under which this District had suffered was caused mainly by the exercise of suffrage by those totally unfit for it. He hoped to see the day when the question of suffrage would be left where the framers of the Constitution intended it to be—in the hands of those to be effected by the right. He would no vote to bring the curse of negro suffrage upon the people of this District again. Their interests were far more secure in the hands of three honest upright Commissioners than in the hands of negro voters.

Mr. THURMAN said he was opposed to the amendment of the Senator from Indiana. The duty of Congress was prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, which provided that Congress should have exclusive control over the District of Columbia. When Congress said there should be no suffrage in the District, it would not deprive any man of any right guaranteed him by the Constitution. Congress had the same authority over the District that it had over Fort Monroe or Fort Hamilton, and would it be contended that there could be any authority within any of these forts in hostility to the Federal Government, it never was intended that the seat of the Federal Government should be at the power of any municipality. The people of this District are not the only persons interested in it. The Government itself is the largest property holder here, and had a right to protect its own property.

Pending discussion, the Senate, after an executive session, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House, in Committee of the Whole, Mr. E. H. Roberts in the Chair, considered the Legislative Appropriation bill.

Nothing of public interest occurred until the paragraph was reached which makes provision for the Bureau of Education. A proposition to increase the clerical force of the Bureau was made by Mr. BURCH, and advocated by himself, Messrs. HOAR and TOWNSEND, and was opposed by Messrs. FRYE and COX. The latter avowed his hostility to the whole system of "bureaucy," and declared that all those bureaus which had no warrant in the Constitution would be abolished by the next Congress, because, if the Democratic party had not the power in the Senate, it had power in the House to prevent the passage of laws.

Mr. GARFIELD favored the increase proposed by Mr. Monroe, and defended the Bureau or Education as a necessary instrument for obtaining and publishing educational statistics. If the Democratic party proposed to begin its new career of power by putting out the eye of the Government by destroying the methods of obtaining intelligence as to the condition of the people; if the Government was to enter on a system which build penitentiaries, and was to take no steps to get information as to whether it was not possible by a better system to avoid the necessity for penitentiaries, then he though it was well that they should have timely notice.

Mr. WILLARD, of Vermont, argued against the Bureau of Education as an unwarranted interference with a matter which the people themselves could and did better take care of, and declared there was no more reason for the Bureau of Education or Bureau of Agriculture than there was for a Bureau of Boots and Shoes.

Finally Mr. Monroe's proposition was rejected.

Mr. HEREFORD moved to strike out the whole appropriation for the Bureau of Education and argued against the whole system of centralization. He referred to Spain as illustrating that system by which a nation might become powerful, but by which individuals were dwarfed. The motion was rejected.

The committee progressed as far as page 64.

Mr. DAWES introduced a bill making provision for the payment of the sinking fund. Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Adjourned.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

How in New Orleans Growing Out of the School Trouble.

NEW ORLEANS, December 17.—A row between white and colored school boys at the Keller Market, this afternoon, terminated in a general melee between the whites and blacks in the neighborhood. The result was, that a colored policeman was badly hurt by being struck in the breast by a negro with a benjoying pin, and a number of persons bruised. During the excitement a negro man fell dead, of heart disease.

Look Out for Dealers

that represent they have White River Flour under other brands. This is often done to make sales.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

Germany.

THE PRESS ON THE RESIGNATION.

BERLIN, December 17.—The *Post* of this city to-day expresses the hope that Bismarck has not yet definitely decided to resign from the Government, but adds that, however deeply deplorable such decision by the Chancellor must be regarded, it would not be productive of immediate danger to the State.

The *Kreuz Zeitung* says that the rumors of the Chancellor's resignation emanated from his intimate friends, who say that the Prince declared that he was weary, and that it is impossible for him to govern with the present majority in the Reichstag. Another report gives Herr Denzin, a deputy in the Reichstag, as authority for the statement that the Prince intends resigning his portfolio in the Government. Herr Denzin announced that Bismarck, in view of the vacillating majority in the Reichstag, would be forced to resign.

Prince Bismarck had an interview with the Emperor to-day. Rumors of his resignation are still reported, but in some Parliamentary circles it is reported that the difficulty has been completely settled. The opinion is almost unanimously held that yesterday's action of the Reichstag was not a vote of want of confidence, and it is considered certain that, even if the Chancellor has tendered his resignation, the Emperor will not accept it.

BISMARCK THREATENS TO RESIGN.

BERLIN, December 17.—It is rumored that Bismarck regards the action of the Reichstag, in voting to uphold its dignity, that the Constitution should be amended to prevent the arrest of a deputy during the session, as equivalent to a vote of want of confidence, and will resign. It is further said that in consequence the resolution will be modified.

LONDON, December 18, 6 A. M.—A special to the *Morning Post*, from Berlin, says: "It is positively asserted that Prince Bismarck tendered his resignation, which was refused. He afterwards conferred with the leaders of the National party regarding the future conduct of affairs in Parliament, and an understanding was secured."

France.

BUILDING CRUSHED IN BY SNOW—SEVERAL PERSONS KILLED AND INJURED.

PARIS, December 17.—The roof of Market Hall, in Augnes, fell under a weight of snow yesterday, and several persons were killed and injured.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 17, 3 P. M.—Consols for money 93⅝@93⅞; for account 93⅞@94; United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 90@90½; do 1867, 10-40's, 104; new 5's, 103. New York Central, 96; Erie, 20; do preferred 38.

PARIS, December 17.—Rentes 61 francs 57½ centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 17.—United States bonds—5-20's, 1882, 97⅝.

ANTWERP, December 17.—Refined petroleum 27 francs.

LIVERPOOL, December 17.—Cotton quiet; middling upland 7 7-16@7¾d; Orleans 7¾d. Sales of 12,000 bales, including 2,000 for speculation and export and 7,400 American.

OHIO.

Doings of the Legislature—"Old Bill" Allen Has His Say on the Presidency.

COLUMBUS, December 17.—In the Senate, bills were introduced for limiting the contracts for furnishing the cities with gas to one year, and compelling parties laying gas pipes to give $100,000 bond to prevent unnecessary obstruction of the streets; to repeal the act of the last session regulating fares and freights on railroads; to re-enact former law on the subject, and to provide that all penalties under it shall go to the school fund.

In he House, bills were passed requiring the sle of stove coal by weight, except by specil contract, and fixing the weight of a ton a 2,000 pounds; to create National Guards, and to authorize cities and villages to bud armories for companies organized with their limits. Bills were introduced to reduc the fees of county officers about seventy-five per cent.

Intimate friends of Governor Allen say that hisposition on the Presidential question is this: He neither seeks nor would decline the honor of a nomination; his friends must settle that; but he wants it distinctly understood that he will not allow himself to be used as a catspaw to further the interest of any other candidate.

FIRE RECORD.

Wexford, Erie County—$8,000.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

ERIE, PA., December 17, 1874.

The grist mill of L. G. Brotherton, at Waterford, this county, was burned yesterday, with all its contents, including three thousand dollars' worth of new machinery. The total loss is about eight thousand dollars; insurance small.

Chicago—$20,000.

CHICAGO, December 17.—A fire this morning destroyed a block of six wooden stores with dwelling flats, above the corner of West Madison and Throop streets, and comprising Nos. 4 and 26 to 4 and 36 West Madison. The buildings were old and the shops were generally small establishments. The totalloss is probably $20,000, with very light insurance.

LATER—The total loss by the fire on West Msdison street this morning is now stated at $40,000, but this estimate is doubtless exaggerated. The brewery of Hass & Powell, at Riverside, was burned this morning. Loss $50,000; insurance unknown.

Detroit—$9,000.

DETROIT, December 17.—The foundry and planing mill of E. H. Jones & Son, at Vernon, Michigan, was burned about two o'clock this morning. Loss $9,000. No insurance.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—For the Middle States and Lower Lake region, partly sudy and colder weather, with brisk nrth or west winds, rising barometer and ht snow near Lake Ontario. For the Go Valley, partly cloudy and colder wther, northwest to northeast winds, rising barometer and light rain. For the Gal regions of Pennsylvania and Indi, the temperature will fall and remain bow freezing during Friday night.

bner Turner, a noted turfman, died in Nhville on Wednesday.

e steamers City of New York and Russ Sgrom Liverpool, have arrived at New Yk.

horse race for a purse of $50,000, at Menouth Park, New York, is the latest Centinal proposition.

Suuel Payson, postmaster of North Wren, Maine, and his wife, were found ds in their beds yesterday morning, suated by coal gas.

Th vicinity of McKenzie, Tenn., is flood with counterfeit money, circulated by o Bob Drury, his father and mother. Bob in jail at Memphis.

Cl Vogt, the Belgian murderer, has beextradited by United States Commissior Guttman, at New York, and the Prident has signed the warrant.

Jo Clark, engineer at the Harrisburg wat works, was killed, and a laborer seriour injured, yesterday, by the pressure of wir forcing the cap from a twenty-inch main.

Ho J. B. Rice, member of Congress from he First Virginia district, and formr Mayor of Chicago, died at Norfolk last eing. His remains will be taken to Chgo for interment.

Govaor Osborne, of Kansas, estimates that twty thousand people in the northern cotes of that State will need aid during e winter. Help is needed from abroad relieve this suffering.

The simship Prussian from Liverpool, arrived sterday at Portland, Maine; the Illinois, m Liverpool, a Philadelphia; the Frisi from Hamburg, and the Orion, from Livpool, at New York.

The Phadelphia *Inquirer* publishes today a fulkpose of the Kath King swindle. Katwas so thoroughly materialized that she is caught entering a boarding-house and forced to confess to fraud.

Judge El. Kiels, of the Estala, Alabama, city urt, against whom articles of impeachme were pending in te Legislature, haresigned. General Alpheus Baker has bn appointed to succed him.

The Tanrs' and Leather Dealers' Convention, in ssion at Chicago, Yesterday formed an sociation for mutual enefit, and adopte a classification of hides by which to b governed in makin purchases.

A committ of five pupils of the New Orleans Centl Boys' High school yterday visited te Lower Girls' High Sool and demande the removal therefrom of a number of cored pupils, threatening to use force if pessary. The colored Gls left promptly.

Laurance Seitz, of Cincinnati, for t past fifteen yrs salesman at a promine Pearl street hou, left home on the 27th o November for Cleeville, Ind., on business It is known tha he returned about mid night of Decembr 2d, since which time no tidings of hi can be obtained. He had about two hudred dollars with him, and the supposition is that he has been foully dealt with.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Improvement of the Ohio River.

Arguments of Hon. J. K. Moorhead and Others.

REORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN POSTAL SERVICE.

Objectionable Officials to be Displaced.

MONEY FOR INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

Conference on the Tariff Bill.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 17, 1874.

Reorganization of Southern Postal Service.

It is proposed to make a very complete reorganization of the personnel of the postal service in the Southern States. It has been discovered that a large number of very objectionable characters have secured these positions through various influences, and it is proposed to correct these evils. The President has given directions to begin operations in this line, and Alabama and Florida have been set down for a beginning.

Exchange of Newspaper Mails with Canada.

George Brown, agent of the Canadian Government on the Reciprocity Treaty, now pending in the Senate, has had a conference with the Postmaster General respecting the exchange of newspaper mails between the United States and Canada under the law which goes into effect on January 1st. A schedule is being prepared, the terms of which are considered satisfactory.

More Clerks to be Decapitated.

The division of the Second Auditor's office of the Treasury Department, charged with the looking up of pay of deserters and military fines and penalties, which forms the fund for the support of the national military asylums created by act of 1866, is about to be abolished, in consequence of lack of work. This will result in the discharge of thirty-five clerks.

Improvement of the Ohio.

The Committee of Commerce of the House to-day heard arguments from Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, of Virginia, Hon. Jas. K. Moorhead, of Pittsburgh, and other gentlemen, recommending appropriations for the improvement of the Ohio river by the construction of dams. Last session Mr. Negley, the Representative from the Pittsburgh district, obtained an appropriation of $40,000 for the improvement of the harbor of Pittsburgh, and it is probable that this appropriation will be used to test the efficiency of a system of improvement of rivers by the erection of dams.

Money for Internal Improvements.

The Committee on Railways and Canals to-day agreed that they would to-morrow take up and finally dispose of the bill for the construction of a narrow-gauge railroad between Washington City and Cincinnati. The question of voting money for internal improvements again came up, and the majority of the committee positively committed itself to this policy.

The Tariff Bill.

The Conference Committee on the tariff bill had a long session to-day, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue meeting with them for consultation. The Secretary of the Treasury has not been down to-day. The points of difference are on leaf tobacco, hops, tax on brokers' sales and silk goods.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 17, 1874.

KELLOGG WANTS AN EARLY INVESTIGATION.

The following telegram was received at the Executive mansion last evening, and by direction of the President referred to Speaker Blaine:

NEW ORLEANS, December 16.—I respectfully ask that you will use your influence to secure the early departure for Louisiana of the select committee appointed yesterday. I am confident that an investigation, thorough and complete, will vindicate the policy of your administration, will strengthen the Republican party, and will place the State government of Louisiana in a more just light before the country. The presence of the committee here at this juncture will also go far to secure, order, and, I hope, contribute in some degree to bring about the solution of our difficulties. [Signed] W. P. KELLOGG.

THE POSTAL DEFICIENCIES.

The Senate Committee on Postal Affairs and Post Roads has appointed a sub-committee to visit the Department on Saturday, and inquire into the causes of the large increase in the deficiencies.

The customs receipts for the week ending December 12th were as follows: New York, $1,561,000; Boston, $189,000; Philadelphia, $138,686; Baltimore, $66,910; New Orleans for the week ending December 5th, $47,942; San Francisco, do, $166,886.

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

The Senate to-day confirmed the following nominations: Geo. H. Sand, Secretary of Dakota Territory; W. Campbell, Surveyor of Customs at St. Joe, Missouri; J. C. S. Colby, of Missouri, Consul at Chin Kiang, China. Postmasters—O. N. Icks, Union, Iowa; C. G. Shaw, Vermillion, Dakota; Jno. W. Coventry Edward, Seville, Illinois; Geo. W. McKeig, Cairo, Illinois; Francis M. Ryan, Streator, Illinois; Chas. W. Bovard, Chenoa, Illinois; Jno. A. Warren, Henry, Illinois; A. M. Gardner, Avoca, Iowa; Wm. H. Humphrey, Lewistown, Illinois; Mrs. Mollie E. Jenkins, Murphysboro, Illinois; Postmaster M. Sinks, Connersville, Indiana; James W. Trow, North Madison, Iowa; Mrs. E. Bingham, Toledo, Iowa; Anthony Loranz, Clarinda, Iowa; E. V. Phillips, West Union, Iowa; Joseph Edginton, Eldora, Iowa; George Phillips, Brooklyn, Iowa; Edward C. Thompson, Creston, Iowa; P. H. Bevens, Corning, Iowa; A. Pearson, Nashville, Illinois; L. W. Hause, Aledo, Illinois; Ebenezer Woodbury, Houlton, Maine; Jacob Sickler, Emporia, Kansas; A. M. Campbell, Salina, Kansas; W. T. Snow, Brookfield, Missouri; A. H. Lamb, Butler, Missouri; John K. Heisel, Brunswick, Missouri; John Gibson, Carrolton, Missouri; George Raider, Carthage, Missouri; J. W. Mack, Holden, Missouri; Samuel Frodsham, Savannah, Missouri; J. A. Woodmansy, Pleasant Hill, Missouri.

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC BILL.

Petitions from the National Temperance Society and other temperance organizations and churches, representing over three hundred thousand petitioners, were presented in the House to-day, asking for the early passage of the bill to provide for a Commission of inquiry concerning the alcoholic liquor traffic, which passed the Senate last session. Judge Poland will report the bill from the Judiciary Committee soon after the holiday recess, and it is probable that it will pass the House.

ACCIDENT TO THE PAYMASTER GENERAL.

Paymaster General Benjamin Alvord last night, while leaving the rotunda of the Capitol, slipped and fell down the steps, breaking one of his legs.

CINCINNATI.

Hog Packing Statistics from the "Price Current."

CINCINNATI, December 17.—The Cincinnati *Price Current*, the leading authority upon hog packing statistics, will publish to-morrow morning a very full preliminary report of pork packing in the West. Returns have been received from points which packed last season nine-tenths of all packed at interior points. The aggregate packing to day, ranging from the 9th to the 16th of December, at 279 points, is given at 1,190,000 head against 1,097,000 last season—an increase of 93,000. These points packed last season a total of 1,887,000, out of 2,084,000, the whole number packed at interior points during the season of 1873-4. The average of weights has been a falling off of about twenty-one pounds per head, or ten percent from last season, with fully a corresponding decline in the yield of lard. No estimates are given for the season, as it is desired to furnish such information two weeks later, when such estimates can be more satisfactorily and reliably calculated. The packing at the six principal cities, is given at 2,010,000 to date, against 2,070,000 last year. Interior points not heard from, packed last season, 196,954 head. Should these points show a corresponding increase this season, the total packing at interior points, in round numbers, is 1,400,000, and including the six leading cities, aggregates 3,100,000, against 3,208,000 last year.

A Lebanon county man thought a patent wire clothes-line was an excellent thing until the other day. He was driving into his garden in a wagon, when the foolish line caught him on the neck and cut a very ugly gash. If the wire had not broken, it would probably have torn his head off.

A Reward is Offered

for a flour that will make as much or as good bread as the great White River, for the price.

MISSISSIPPI.

Extra Session of the Legislature—Message of the Governor—The Case Plainly Stated.

JACKSON, MISS., December 17.—The Legislature assembled at noon, nearly all the members present. The Governor sent in a message, claiming that the present condition of affairs was brought about by violent white men for political purposes. He says:

"At this moment the State and county authorities are successfully resisted, and the free action of officials is impossible. Armed insurgents procure orders for a local election, with the intention that ballots shall be cast in such a reign of terror that the will of the majority may be undone by the minority. Insurgents have deliberately and knowingly entered on the work of revolution, and we must face the facts as they exist. If the insurrection is successful, it must reduce the majority to the will of the minority; and that minority which means power by force, must return it by legislation as harsh and cruel as the first acts of violence, in which case one race will be deprived of their rights and remanded back to as unfortunate a condition as they have ever known, or else compelled to wander, seeking freedom rather than homes, as is now the case with many of their race, in other States."

He makes no recommendations to the Legislature, but when it is remembered that a majority of the House are blacks, and that the Governor's whole message is an appeal to the prejudices of that majority, its general tenor cannot be mistaken.

He closes by requesting the Legislature to take such steps as will overthrow the insurrection in Warren county and prevent similar occurrences.

The Legislature don't seem to know how to grapple with the problem presented to them. Probably first will ask the United States for troops for Vicksburg, and probably they will repeal the law authorizing special elections, thinking to defeat the special election already ordered in Warren county on the 31st of December.

PHILADELPHIA.

Board of Health Investigated—Fraud Charged in Street-Cleaning Contracts.

PHILADELPHIA, December 17.—The Joint Special Committees of Select and Common Councils, appointed to investigate the conduct of the Board of Health in giving out the street cleaning contract, made a report to-day, showing a frightful amount of corruption in the Board. In fact, it appears from this report that, the Board of Health has been run for years solely for the purpose of robbing the city Treasury. In street cleaning contracts awards have been almost invariably made to the highest bidder, instead of the lowest, as required by law. It is shown that contracts were awarded nearly to the amount of four hundred thousand dollars above the lowest bids. The report concludes with a resolution for the complete reorganization of the Board of Health.

The Cholera Epidemic of 1873.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 17.—The physicians of Nashville met in convention last evening at the Board of Health rooms to receive Surgeon E. McClellan, of the United States army, who is in the city for the purpose of investigating the initial causes of that cholera epidemic of 1873. Dr. McClellan stated that in his investigations he had discovered that cholera had passed from New Orleans to Vicksburg, hence to Shreveport and Memphis, where it was scattered North, South, East and West, until it reached the counties of Missouri. The disease had generally originated after the arrival of emigrants from the infected parts and unpacking their baggage, the disease being confined in their clothing; that cholera, small-pox, fever and other contagious diseases could be rapidly and effectively distributed by passenger carriers; that close railroad cars and private closets were the means of spreading disease, as passed through the cities on the line of the railroads. In answer to a question by Mr. Buist, why Louisville, although connected by rail with Chicago, Cincinnati, Memphis and Nashville, was not affected, while Nashville was so severely scourged, he answered by saying that the question opened up a wide field for argument; that it was a well known fact that cholera was imported into this city again and again; die out and be revived by some local cause or causes.

STATE NEWS.

The diphtheria has disappeared from Franklin.

Crawford has more farms than any other county in the State—6,537.

Thirteen hundred dollars have been raised in Philadelphia to build a monument to General Meade.

Mr. John Tittle, Sr., and wife, of Johnstown, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on the 15th inst.

Peter Herdic, of Williamsport, has given $4,000 toward the building of a home for the friendless in that city.

Philadelphia is said to be the great market for catfish. Large quantities are shipped thither from Maryland.

Dr. Alexander Johnson died at Arnagh, Indiana county, on Tuesday of the present week, at the advanced age of eighty-five years.

A bear, weighing four hundred pounds, was killed on the farm of S. T. Sedam, in Washington township, Lycoming county, a short time since.

Surveys are already being made and the right of way secured for the "People's Freight Railroad," between the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers.

A West Chester man, while digging in his garden a few days ago, unearthed a number of healthy potato bugs about six inches below the surface.

Porter township, Schuylkill county, not over half a dozen years ago, had only two log school houses; now it has six brick and two frame, well furnished in every particular.

Two boys named Ulrich and Buchanan, while skating on the river at Lewistown on the 16th inst., broke through and were drowned. The bodies have not been recovered.

The Reading *Eagle* says work at the cotton mill in that city is plentiful and pressing. Two hundred and fifty-four hands are employed eleven hours per day. The mill is now turning out 28-inch prints.

Thomas Bowen, sixty years of age, and a bachelor, was found dead in his field in Washington township, Greene county, on the 12th inst. He ran after a calf until overheated, and died of heart disease.

A part of the Philadelphia House of Correction has been set apart for the reformation of vagrants. If a man or woman drunkards may be sent there by their families, on paying a small sum for board.

John H. Hendershot was accidentally killed by his son while getting out of a stage at Port Jervis, New York, on Tuesday. Both father and son had been hunting, and by some means a gun in the hands of the latter was discharged, the charge striking the father in the back. Mr. Hendershot was a resident of Pike county, Pa.

A warning to smokers and tobacco chewers: Jeremiah Piersol, a highly respected citizen of Menallen township, Fayette county, is now in the ninety-sixth year of his age; is jovial, intelligent, fond of talk, and particularly fond of the company of young men. He has used tobacco all his life, and bids fair to celebrate his centennial birth day.

A correspondent of the Cleveland *Leader* gives a brief description of a scientific exposition, which will take place at Meadville, commencing on the 24th inst. He says: Though this is a time of "expositions," the project of having one which is purely scientific is new and attracts universal attention. It may seem strange that this site has been chosen, but Meadville is one of the most beautiful of our inland cities, easy of access by rail from every point, and is known for the culture of its citizens and the interest they manifest in every department of education, which is mainly due to the influence of the two colleges located there. Prof. Tingley, of Allegheny College, the prime mover in arranging for the exposition, is an indefatigable investigator and enthusiast in scientific fields, and was both student, companion and friend of the lamented Agassiz during his last summer at the school on Penikese Island. The success of the exposition could not be in better hands. Articles for exhibition are pouring in from all parts of the country, scientists everywhere are interested in the project, and lectures by eminent educators will make it a school of instruction. It is a scheme which will honor its projectors, benefit the cause which promoted it, and deserves unbounded success.

Art Exhibition and Fair.

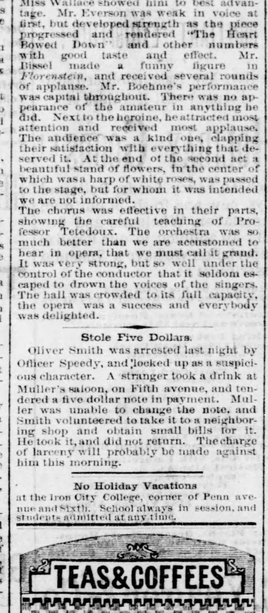
The attention of all lovers of Art is called to the art gallery connected with the Missionary Fair open this day and evening at the First Presbyterian church (Wood, near Sixth). Also, to the autograph letters of President Lincoln and the celebrated rebel spy, Belle Boyd. The art exhibition was a decided success last night, embracing representation pictures from some of the best home collections in the city, presented by home and foreign artists.

Stole Five Dollars.

Oliver Smith was arrested last night by Officer Speedy, and locked up as a suspicious character. A stranger took a drink at Muller's saloon, on Fifth avenue, and tendered a five dollar note in payment. Muller was unable to change the note, and Smith volunteered to take it to a neighboring shop and obtain small bills for it. He took it, and did not return. The charge of larceny will probably be made against him this morning.

No Holiday Vacations

at the Iron City College, corner of Penn avenue and Sixth. School always in session, and students admitted at any time.



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THE NEW COUNCILS.

Change in the Requisites for Admission to Membership—The Appropriation Ordinance, etc.

The city Councils are required to organize "on the first Monday after the first day of January," which will be the fourth of the coming month. The old Councils have but one more regular meeting day—the last Monday in this month. Select Council, however, will meet on Monday next, and Common Council may call a special meeting for that day; or special meetings may be held at any time before the time for organizing the new body. The Select Council is now nearly up with its business, and the desk will probably be cleared on Monday next. In the Common Council there is but little unfinished business.

The members elected to Councils, in February last, will take their seats on the first Monday in January. Heretofore the returns for Councilmen have been made to the respective bodies, and upon the approval of the returns, the members elect have been admitted to seats. Under the new law, returns of city elections are made to the Prothonotary, and the returns are computed and certificates of election issued by direction of the Court. It will be necessary, therefore, for members elect to present their certificates before they can be sworn in. We understand that very few of those elected to Councils last February have procured their certificates. The matter should claim their prompt attention, otherwise there may be delay in organizing. The incoming Councils will have important business demanding immediate attention, the first and most important being the ordinance making appropriations for the ensuing year. It is the intention of the Finance Committee to go into this work thoroughly, and have it in shape in time to enable Councils to discuss it fully in all its details. The subject of taxation is paramount to all others, so far as the city government is concerned, and there should be no covering up of the condition of affairs, and no holding back of the appropriation bill until the last moment. The law requires an open and a square deal, so that the public may know what they are taxed for, and we are certain it is the intent of the Finance Committee to make a full and satisfactory showing.

LIST OF PATENTS

Issued from the United States Patent Office to Citizens of the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

Following is the list of patents issued from the United States Patent office to citizens of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, for the week ending December 17, 1874, furnished for the COMMERCIAL from the office of J. McC. Perkins & Co., Counselors-at-law and Solicitors for American and foreign patents, 513 Seventh street, Washington, D. C.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Horse-Collars—John M. Bright, Bernville. Filed October 23, 1874.

Water-Coolers—M. B. Hunter, Bedford. Filed September 5, 1874.

Hydraulic Rams—W. W. Grier, Hulton. Filed September 2, 1874.

Hoof Pattern—J. S. Dougherty, Henrietta. Filed July 18, 1874.

Pumps—John L. Lease, Pine Hill. Filed October 17, 1874.

Rolling Pins—Charles Frazier, Pittsburgh. Filed June 25, 1874.

Metal Frames for Piano-Fortes—James B. Atwood, Pittsburgh, assignor to Howard Tilton, Philadelphia. Filed June 25, 1874.

Devices for Tapping Mains—J. J. Quinn, Pittsburgh, assignor of one-half his right to Thomas H. Lawson, same place. Filed September 27, 1874.

Locomotive Smoke Stacks—James Hughes, Scranton. Patent No. 142,851, dated September 16, 1873. Filed July 31, 1874.

Combined Clothes Swivel Attachments for Holding and Turning the Rope in Artesian and Other Wells—D. A. Wray, Titusville. Filed November 3, 1874.

Buckles for Harness—Anthony Jake, Lancaster. Filed June 16, 1874.

OHIO.

Boiler Flue Cleaners—Ralph R. Carpenter, Youngstown City. Filed November 2, 1874.

Liquid Meters—Wm. Pemberton and H. B. Piper, Cleveland, assignors to themselves and Louis Laura Piper, same place. Filed October 7, 1874.

Sleds—Samuel Mills, New Castle. Filed October 24, 1874.

Stoves—Frederick P. Bloom, Tiffin. Filed November 12, 1874.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Hinges—James A. Dunning, Wheeling. Filed October 2, 1874.

Gounod Club.

The production of "The Bohemian Girl," at Library Hall, last evening, by the Gounod Club, of this city, was in every respect creditable and agreeable. Miss Jean Wallace sustained the role of *Arline*; Mrs. C. Tetedoux, the *Gipsy Queen*, Mr. S. S. Colville, *Thaddeus*, Mr. B. M. Everson, *Count Arnheim*, Mr. S. Bissel, *Florestein*, and Mr. Paul Boehme, *Devilshoof*. The success of Miss Wallace was so complete, that not only her intimate friends, but the city of Pittsburgh, as well, may feel proud of her. To a voice of unusual sweetness and power she adds a natural grace of manner and an evident aptitude for stage representations. She rendered every number allotted to her with charming distinctness and force, sustaining herself well to the end. Catching the spirit of the opera, she acted it no less charmingly than she sang it. In fact, the only unpleasant feature of her performance was the fear it suggested that her voice may in time be lost to our city in more lucrative employment on the lyric stage abroad. Mrs. Tetedoux sang her part with a conscientious fidelity to the score. What she lacked in action she furnished in a correct singing of a difficult part. The voice of Mr. Colville is not strong, but very true and sweet. His duets with Miss Wallace showed him to best advantage. Mr. Everson was weak in voice at first, but developed strength as the piece progressed and rendered "The Heart Bowed Down" and other numbers with good taste and effect. Mr. Bissel made a funny figure in *Florestein*, and received several rounds of applause. Mr. Boehme's performance was capital throughout. There was no appearance of the amateur in anything he did. Next to Miss Wallace, he attracted most attention and received most applause. The audience was a kind one, clapping their satisfaction with everything that deserved it. At the end of the second act a beautiful stand of flowers, in the center of which was a harp of white roses, was passed to the stage, but for whom it was intended we are not informed.

The chorus was effective in their parts, showing the careful teaching of Professor Tetedoux. The orchestra was so much better than we are accustomed to hear in opera, that we must call it grand. It was very strong, but so well under the control of the conductor that it seldom escaped to drown the voices of the singers. The hall was crowded to its full capacity, the opera was a success and everybody was delighted.

Stole Five Dollars.

Oliver Smith was arrested last night by Officer Speedy, and locked up as a suspicious character. A stranger took a drink at Muller's saloon, on Fifth avenue, and tendered a five dollar note in payment. Muller was unable to change the note, and Smith volunteered to take it to a neighboring shop and obtain small bills for it. He took it, and did not return. The charge of larceny will probably be made against him this morning.

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Parties, Weddings and Banqu

The Commercial.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1874.

THE New York *World* learns that the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad Company, which is ready to pay off its third mortgage on presentation, has recently sold $12,000,000 of its consolidated loan.

THE total imports at Philadelphia for November, including $35,046 brought in bond through New York, amounted to $1,346,560, against $1,491,534 in October. The imports for the same month last year were $1,220,070.

THE St. Louis *Dispatch*, at least, is not blind to the meaning of the late Democratic victories. It says, gleefully: "The day is at hand when it will be no more harm to kill a carpet-bagger than a moccasin snake."

NOW that Postmaster General JEWELL has been confirmed by the Senate, it is hoped that the *Post* will feel easier, especially as Senator CAMERON voted for him, instead of against him, as the *Post* was sure would be the case.

WHILE the export trade of all the other ports of the country increased during the month of November, it fell off eight millions at the port of New York. The prospect held out by these figures does not tend to make the New York editors either amiable or entertaining.

"HE ALSO serves who only stands and waits." If Sunset Cox will only have patience for a little while, he will, although baffled now, be able to discover discrepancies and deficiencies to his heart's content, in the financial reports of the Government. Within less than a year his own party comes into power.

WHERE did the New York *Tribune* get its apparently accurate knowledge of the doings of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company? Possibly it might be well for Congress to subject JAY GOULD, who is generally supposed to hold certain relations of an intimate character with the *Tribune*, to a searching investigation.

THUS far, in Congress, the Democrats have chiefly distinguished themselves for lack of political intuition, blindness to opportunity, and inability to comprehend the signs of the times and the conditions of success. We are not at all alarmed concerning the possible duration of its lease of power. It will be very brief.

THE prevalence of middle names is so general that the papers are never satisfied to let a public man off without one. Nearly all the newspapers are now parading Hon. EDGAR A. COWAN, of this State, as a candidate for United States Senator. He has no middle name, really, but it is impossible to some minds to conceive of the possibility of his doing without one.

A CONTRACT for a term of five years has just been concluded, between the Central and Union Pacific Railroads and the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company, of California, for a through first-class line of steamships to run between San Francisco and Japan and China. The new line is put on purely as a business enterprise, and will ask for no subsidy or other Government aid.

THE Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, which is an extension, westward, of the New York and Erie road, failed to pay running expenses during the year ending September 30, 1874. Its total receipts were $4,838,257, and its expenses, $5,427,851—a dead loss of $589,596; and the Cleveland *Herald* puts the total losses of the road since September 1, 1871, at $5,949,104. The road is now in the hands of a Receiver.

THE Baltimore *American* announces that if the Saratoga Combination of railroads shall reduce the rates of freight for the winter to a point below that fixed in the tariff of the Baltimore and Ohio road, the latter road will respond by making a further reduction; in other words, will "cut under." Either these rival roads will come to a common understanding with each other, or freight will be carried cheaply this winter.

THE good fortune of that gold-edged Nevada phenomenon, SHARON, still pursues him. According to the California papers, recent discoveries of ore in the great Comstock silver lode, of which he is the principal owner, have been made that, it is estimated, will yield at least $300,000,000, with profits at sixty-six per cent. of that sum. The press of that section characterizes the discovery as "the most important event in the history of the Pacific coast." Its enormous value actually fatigues the imagination in thinking of it.

A MAN in Kentland, Ind., named MORTON, attempted to bribe the Grain Inspector at Chicago to pass new corn as old. He was indicted for this offense at Chicago and in attempting to arrest him in Indiana and take him to Chicago for trial, the Indiana authorities interfered and prevented MORTON'S arrest. From all which we infer that the ruling powers in Indiana think bribery is not an offense worthy of punishment. MORTON, it is clear, would never have been arrested for attempting to bribe any of *them*.

THE total European emigration for the present year, exclusive of persons who had previously been in this country, will, it is estimated, probably not exceed 140,000, while the number for last year was 266,000. The decrease is greatest in the emigration from Germany, and next to that, from Ireland. Fortunately, however, the quality of the emigrants seems to have improved as much as their number has lessened, there being, every year, a plainly perceptible advance in the grades of occupation from which they are recruited.

THE Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company has completed arrangements with the Erie road for an interchange of traffic. Freights received by the Baltimore and Ohio Railway at Chicago and points West, will be transferred at Mansfield, Ohio, so as to reach New York by the Erie Railway. Arrangements, also, are nearly completed by which passenger cars will be lifted from the broad to the narrow-gauge. The mails will also be forwarded by the same route. This looks as though Erie contemplated withdrawing from the Saratoga Combination.

THE southern wing of the National Capitol had a narrow escape from destruction by fire, a few days ago. There are hundreds of cords of kindling wood stacked in the basement of the building, and it appears that, in consequence of a broken gasmain, the gas accidentally ignited, and was rapidly licking its way along a gutta percha telegraph cable toward the heaped kindlings, when, by the merest chance, an employee happened to enter the basement in time to avert further danger, probably preventing a great conflagration and the loss of millions of money.

THOSE who think education is the grand preventive of crime, are referred to the case of MOSHER, the CHARLIE Ross kidnapper, who was recently killed at Bay Ridge, near New York, while in the act of committing a burglary. His sister-in-law, in a recent interview held over his dead body, bore this testimony to his character:

"The life of thieving he took to was his only vice. He never drank a drop of liquor in his life, never took a chew of tobacco, and never smoked a cigar nor a pipe. I never heard him use even a foul word. He never had a fault but the one of wishing he had an[illegible] sudden riches, *and he had a beautiful education.*"

WE HAVE more than once taken occasion to commend the liberality and fair mindedness of the Memphis *Avalanche*, as contradistinguished from the majority of Southern Democratic papers. When, however, it charges us with "giving but one side" of the recent Vicksburg troubles, on account of our Republicanism, it is neither catholic nor just. We published, as they came, all the dispatches of the Associated Press concerning the affair; but, all on the side of the old rebel element as they were, they simply made out a case of flagrant usurpation and defiance of law by an organized mob of Democratic fire-eaters. The hair-splitting *Avalanche* itself will hardly, we take it, dispute that.

THE New York correspondent of the Chicago *Journal*, in his last letter to that paper, cites a fact which, trifling as it may appear in itself, furnishes a significant commentary on the existing state of feeling in the South. It is, that all the men's clothing now being manufactured in that city for the Southern market are fitted with pockets for concealed weapons. The head of a very prominent house informed the correspondent that the retail purchasers in the Southern States would have nothing else. One recently refused to take a large lot of pantaloons because they did not contain revolver pockets. It is evident that the practice of going armed is becoming far more prevalent in the South than at any time before the war, and that any laws forbidding it are most likely destined to become dead letters. The New York dealers in small arms are also driving an unusually brisk trade with New Orleans and other Southern ports. These facts are ominously suggestive.

RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE IN COURT.

According to the New York *Jewish Times*, a tendency of decidedly evil omen has lately become apparent in one of the Philadelphia courts. An Israelitish business firm of that city was led to suspect a young Christian woman, employed by them as a saleswoman, of stealing their goods. Her trunk having been searched, the stolen articles were found in it. The case having been referred to a court, the young woman's pastor gave strong testimony in her favor as having always borne a good reputation and enjoyed the esteem of her acquaintance. This was of course a legitimate line of defence. But her lawyer, in repelling the charge against his client, reminded the jury that she was a Christian, and that her accusers were Jews, descendants of that accursed race who crucified the Redeemer and who had no right to trouble a Christian court with their complaints. Though the judge explained to the jury that their religious views had nothing to do with the case in hand, and besides rebuked the attorney for his unseemly appeal to religious prejudice, though further the judge remarked that the fact of the theft seemed to have been clearly proved, the verdict was for acquittal. The *Jewish Times* has no doubt that this was wholly the result of the lawyers indecent use of the religious relations of the parties to the suit. Moreover, the *Times* alleges that the same artifice has been since attempted in the same city, but was frustrated by the prompt interference of Judge LUDLOW. He said that all such attempts were to be sternly condemned, and that jurors who made their verdicts dependent upon the religion of plaintiff or defendant were guilty of manifest perjury. "A man," added the judge, "who believes in the Almighty and in future reward and punishment is worthy of belief on oath, and jurymen who allow themselves to be influenced by consideration of his religious confession are no patriots and are unworthy American citizens."

It is of course possible that the *Jewish Times* may have been misinformed, or imperfectly informed, as to some of the circumstances in the case of the young woman acquitted. The jury may have had other reasons than the one alleged for their verdict. But assuming the facts to be as stated, both the lawyer and the jury well deserve the condemnation of all who respect and desire to maintain our liberal Constitution. On the subject of judicial oaths generally there seems to be a good deal of mist, in the popular mind at any rate. Look, for example, at the fact that a man may be horribly, frightfully profane in his ordinary speech; a dozen times a day he may, for the most frivolous reasons, invoke upon himself or upon others the vengeance of heaven, and yet, perhaps nobody would think of questioning his credibility as a sworn witness in a court of justice. If examined, he would promptly answer the prescribed questions in a manner to remove all doubt concerning his fitness. On the other hand, an atheist, reverent in speech and of unimpeachable morals, so far as the world knows, would not be allowed to testify. By his unhappy profession he may incur general odium and all sorts of social disabilities; important personal interests of his own may be dependent upon his testimony. He might remove the odium, get rid of the disabilities, and serve his personal interests by denying his creed and professing a belief he doesn't entertain. In other words, by telling a falsehood, he could qualify himself as a witness. But because he has too much conscience or too much self-respect to tell a lie, he is excluded from the witness stand. Such cases have occurred and may occur again.

ONE of the most noteworthy signs of the time in this country is the growing habit of self criticism. Formerly foreigners who visited us used to say of us that we neither judged ourselves nor tolerated those who judged us. This was their belief, the result of their observation among us, and there can be no doubt, that, whether well founded or not, the impression had much to do in inspiring those disparaging, satirical accounts of American men and manners, with which British and other tourists were wont, at the same time, to repay us for our hospitality and to repay themselves the expenses of their cis-Atlantic tour. Seeing us, as they fancied, blind to our own defects and puffed up with a sense of our own superiority, they took pleasure in giving us a wholesome lesson. It needs not to be said that the pleasure was not lessened by the fact pointed out by SAM WELLER, in the Pickwick Papers, long before DICKENS' visit, that "a book cleverly cutting up the Yankees was certain to sell well."

However much we may as Americans still admire ourselves, it can no longer be truly said that we refuse to recognize or admit our shortcomings and deformities. It is possible that a tendency to the other extreme has been for some time prevalent, and that we are becoming as unjustly harsh as we were once unduly indulgent in our estimate of our own general deserts. It is a true English trait. As Mr. W. E. FORSTER said, in his reception speech the other day in New York, "If the Englishman who comes to the States or the American who goes to England were to believe everything he hears said about the country he was visiting, he would not be very hopeful about its condition." From another remark dropped by Mr. FORSTER it is evident he has heard the country, at least the condition and prospects of the country, regularly "disparaged" by its own citizens. In fact, however, citizens who indulge in this practice are not, for the most part, less enthusiastic Americans or less proud of the Republic than their fathers were. With the need of criticism for the correction of abuses and other evils they have become critical, and from the earnestness which dares to disparage may be looked for the energy and political activity which works reform.

An ecclesiastical dignitary who desired the popularity and influence needful to his position would not, a few years ago, have delivered such a lecture as Archbishop BAILEY lately delivered in Washington. He told his audience, some Congressmen, no doubt, forming part of it, that this is an age of mediocrity, and that in the United States we have no great men, not even a great man. He thus expressly excluded the exception which the self-love of each legislator might otherwise have made in favor of his own pretensions. As to the moral causes of the absence of great men the Archbishop declined to speak, but on other aspects of the subject he was sufficiently explicit. Those who form and most influence public opinion, he said, have for the most part received no education. They are strangers to culture. They have no knowledge of the past and have probably not tried to acquire any acquaintance with it. They have never studied political economy and they will not even concede that there is any such science. But it is a science, declared the Bishop, and the most difficult of all sciences, and true statesmanship presupposes the knowledge of it and of other high subjects which can be mastered only by laborious study and experience. And then the Archbishop quoted from the Son of Sirach some verses which some Congressmen would certainly, on mere internal evidence, relegate to the Apocrypha. It would be uncomfortable to think them inspired.

IT HAS been said of the American people that they want every thing done in twenty minutes, and that if any thing in which they are interested is not done within that limit, they become impatient and intolerable of further delay. The course of public opinion in the CHARLIE Ross case is an instance in point. As soon as it was known that the boy had been kidnapped, the public demanded that the police should find the kidnappers, instantly; and the police and detectives, having failed to find either the boy or the thieves, have been denounced on every hand, ever since, as incompetent and unworthy of public trust. The detectives have also been abused without stint because they would not make public all they knew of the case, and tell all about the clues they were working up. Their only chance of success consisted in being allowed to work as secretly as possible; but the public impatience has been so great that the detectives have been compelled to endure a storm of indignant abuse while prosecuting their intricate quest.

It now appears, from the developements in the case in which the burglars were lately shot in Brooklyn, that not only were those burglars the kidnappers of CHARLIE Ross, but that the detectives have all along been on their trail, convinced that they were the real abductors. They had the right clue from the start; and their difficulty has been to track the stolen boy to his place of secretion. That they would have unearthed him, soon, there can be little reason to doubt. The sudden death which overtook the kidnappers at Bay Ridge has exposed their connection with the case before the boy has been discovered; but his discovery cannot now be long delayed. The history of this case is a very remarkable one, in all respects; but in none more than in showing how utterly unjust public sentiment can be in dealing with those who are doing their very best to meet its requirements.

AN EASTERN paper states that Prussian manufacturers and tradesmen are sending to this country for skilled labor, and it is believed that during the next three or four months there will be an unprecedented emigration to Germany. In many cases money has been sent from Europe to persons here with which to pay their passage home. The New York Commissioners of Emigration state that the country is losing those who have learned trades but can find no work here, and have gone back to Europe to work at them. If this is so there will soon be, perhaps, an opportunity afforded American boys to learn trades. For many years, under the stringent rules of the trades' unions, they have been shut out from this chance, and the demand for skilled labor has been supplied by immigration, nearly altogether. If the tide has turned, and if there is to be a change, it will be a happy day for American youth, who heretofore have been restricted to the professions, commerce and agriculture for the chance to earn a living.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The Eastern cities are alive on the Nebraska relief subject. Pittsburgh is dead.

About the only man who ever made the "mutual friend" business profitable, was Dickens.

Wanted to know if Kate Field is any relation to Mrs. Paddock (Maggie Mitchell)?

It is proposed to erect a statue of Zachary Taylor in Washington, at a cost not exceeding $20,000.

Iowa's pork sales in the Chicago market alone will, this season, reach ten millions of dollars.

Talmage's *sine qua non* of a republic is the Sabbath; some one else's is the English language. Next!

The European steamship companies decline to send their vessels to the Boston elevators to load grain.

Readers of the Chicago *Times* keep a barrel of salt in their houses for the express purpose of taking with its stories.

The newest educational magazine is "The National Teachers' Monthly," published simultaneously in New York and Chicago.

The *Courier-Journal* describes the pending Civil Rights bill as "an infamous measure." Where does the "infamy" come in?

The ship-building interest of Maine is still improving. This year the total tonnage of new vessels thus far reported is 75,568 tons.

A temperance excitement is raging in Illinois. Eleven hundred people have just signed the pledge in a single town—Monmouth.

Think of a king to whom a Washington hotel seems a palace, as it does to Kalakaua! Not much of a monarch that; only a little one for a cent.

The principal Democratic industry of the South—putting Republicans into "holes in the ground"—is being prosecuted with considerable vigor.

Capital punishment is likely to be restored in Iowa, murders having greatly multiplied since its hurried abolition a couple of years ago.

The St. Louis *Dispatch* paragraphist says that in Pittsburgh it costs fifty dollars for a man to kick a dog. When was he here, and who bounced him?

The mails between Superior and Bayfield, Mich., are now carried on sledges drawn by dogs, Chippewa Indians and half-breeds driving them.

Eight hundred performers and three hundred horses will take part in the Christmas spectacular pantomime at Barnum's hippodrome in New York.

About five-ninths of the Western furnaces are out of blast, and it is estimated that the stock of pig has been reduced to a greater extent than at the East.

Brooklyn proposes to give employment to the laboring men of that city by building a new reservoir and paying the laborers in orders for groceries and coal.

Society is again beginning its winter season of revelry, while an immense population of almost starving poor finds want coming upon it like an armed man.

The Louisville *Ledger* affords us a good deal of fun, and as its idiocy is of the harmless and, at times, cheerful sort, it is handy to have on the exchange list.

All of Iowa's railroads show increased earnings this year as compared with last year, and there is a large appreciation in the value of farming lands all over the State.

Office seekers must be scarce in New Zealand. A late advertisement in a local paper calls for a man to fill a public office, the salary of which is $1,500 per year, in gold.

The Texas newspapers announce a sale of twenty thousand acres of land to a Philadelphia firm, who will establish a colony, and go extensively into farming and stock-raising.

An old farmer who has watched the weather forty years, says that when the first snow is followed by rain, such is invariably the case with every snow storm of the winter.

A Chicago paper of Wednesday has this incredible special dispatch: "At Jackson mine, Negaunee, this forenoon, Thomas Eagan was killed by an explosion. *Three similar accidents occurred to the deceased previously.*"

PERSONAL.

The *Graphic* gives us the first picture of King Kalakaua—a good looking, chocolate-colored fellow.

Hooray for Ouray! "Ouray, chief of the Utes, is reported to be worth $80,000 in arms, horses, cattle and houses at the reservation. His command is law, and disobedience is death."

Sidney Arthur Maurice Claude Whytten, A. M. is a name fit for the picturesque pages of a fashionable 'novel. But it adorns the prison register of Meigs county, Ohio. Horse-stealing.

Joaquin Miller's supposably overdrawn romances are declared not to be all romance, at least, so far as relates to the existence of beautiful Piute women. Major Powell, the explorer, says that one branch of the Piute tribe has women round-limbed, graceful and sweet-faced.

Richard B. Irwin, (the witness before the Committee on Ways and Means in connection with the investigation of the subsidy granted the Pacific Mail Steamship Company), edited, just after the close of the war, a magazine in New York city. A story entitled "Sherman's March to the Sea," with his name on the fly leaf as author, is now filed in the office of the Librarian of the Capitol.

An American bought a picture in the recent exhibition at Berlin because the Emperor turned it to ridicule. It represented the interview of William with Napoleon after Sedan, and the conquering monarch laughed loudly on first encountering it in the exhibition. The managers were alarmed and removed the picture to an obscure room, but our Yankee sought out and obtained the canvas for the very reason that it had provoked the imperial derision, arguing that the fact made it historic.

A very distressing calamity is the insanity of Commander Wm. B. Cushing, of the navy, the young hero, some dozen years ago, of the destruction of the rebel ram Albemarle. He destroyed the Albemarle by steaming right on to her by night and exploding a torpedo under her as she lay at her dock, up the Roanoke river. His own vessel was blown to splinters with the explosion, and Cushing escaped by several hours' swimming. From the river he finally made his way, through almost impenetrable swamps, to the Union lines. It was a superb and dare-devil exploit.

One of the Ohio State Senators, Burton, of Hamilton, has just received a landwarrant for a section and a thousand dollars in Texas bonds, in recognition of the service he rendered to that State before it was a part of the Union. He was an adjutant general on Hamilton's staff during the Presidency of Sam Houston, and, in 1836, having fallen into the hands of the Mexicans, was sentenced to be shot. A woman who became interested in him and his chief secured a postponement of their execution, and on the night before they were to be shot procured them the countersign and enabled them to escape.

HOLIDAY FASHIONS.

The Very Latest from Paris—An Interesting Paragraph for the Ladies.

"All the dresses," says a correspondent of the *Hornet*, "cling closely to the figure; the bodies and skirts seem made in one, for the bodies descend very low over the hips, and their junction with the skirt is concealed by a scarf, which is tied half way down the body in Eastern fashion. Ball dresses are powdered with gold or silver, or are studded over with real gems. For those who have not a Golconda mine at their disposal, however, beads representing precious stones are being manufactured, and the dresses are studded with these. The effect of these bejeweled dresses at night is extremely effective. Spangles are much worn; even walking dresses are being covered with them. In black they have quite taken the place of jet. Steel spangles are put on gray dresses. It is the rule for the spangles to be of the same color as the dress. Sandalled shoes are coming more and more into vogue. They are not so advantageous to the feet as plain boots, but they agree better with the semi-Grecian and semi-Oriental style of dress that is now coming into fashion. White sandals with white dresses, blue sandals with blue dresses, black sandals with black dresses, and so on. To look pretty they should reach half-way up the leg. Moliere shoes are worn for the morning alone, and black boots for the afternoon. For evening, high sandals. All fashionable walking dresses being made with very tight, long sleeves, buttoned at the wrists, two buttoned gloves are worn in preference to longer gloves. White lace scarfs are universally worn round the neck. They are very becoming, and very elegant looking. Take a long strip of Brussels net, sufficient to tie round the neck, four inches deep at each end with very deep lace, and your cravat is made. Tulle looks pretty, but is not considered *comme-il-faut*. As it will not wash either, it becomes more expensive than real lace. Feathers are worn in profusion, on hats and bonnets alike. Never were they so much worn. There is a perfect *furore* for them. Some hats seem covered with them. You cannot wear too many. They are beginning to be worn in the hair also for evening dress, marabouts especially."

Wm. Mowry and his Indian Mary.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The trial now in progress in our city, involving the legality of Indian marriages, is one of grave import; and those at all familiar with frontier life must look on with deep interest. If that marriage is valid, there are thousands, nay, tens of thousands, of illegitimate white folks in this country, who have never dreamed of any stain upon their birth, and tens of thousands of titles, covering millions of property, which are not worth the paper on which they are written. In view of the doubt, it becomes every citizen of this land to look along the branches of the family tree, and learn if any one of the paternal ancestors ever spent a day in the Indian country, prior to his union with the maternal progenitor. If he did, the chances are ninty-nine in a hundred that he had an Indian wife and child, who may be the legal heir of that same paterfamilias.

The white man who has been among Indians, in any capacity except that of married missionary accompanied by his wife, and has had no Indian spouse, is as great an anomaly among Christians as was Joseph among the Jews. Nay, rather more so; for Joseph had the fear of Potiphar before his eyes, to aid him in keeping his good resolutions, while, in the other case, Mrs. Potiphar is just as willing, and Mr. Potiphar far more than agreed. In his dealings with white men, individually, the Indian Potiphar's principal articles of commerce are Mrs. P. and the young ladies of his family. For the former he seldom seeks more than temporary employment; but for the latter he is always anxious to secure permanent engagements. His price always varies with the length of time for which his squaw is hired, or sold, and her market value, on youth, fairness of complexion, symmetry of form, cooking, carrying, moccasin making capacity, &c., &c.; but the youngest and the oldest, the fairest and the darkest, the most lithe and most obese, alike, have their price. It is fixed by the chief, or brave, who owns her, is the subject of dicker between him and the man to whom he proposes to sell or hire her, and is altogether a matter in which she is supposed to have no choice.

Even the testimony in this case, presented as much as possible to influence a Christian court, shows that Mowry's dicker was with Perot; that he was to give him compensation; that when old Perot said, "I am satisfied," young Kaba-yan-nah-qui considered the matter settled, and went with the man who was "to take care of her." A regular Indian marriage, which, in the understanding of all concerned, would have been no less sacred if the groom had already had twenty wives, and to which he could have done no wrong by adding twenty more the next week. The idea of monogamic marriage could not get into an Indian's head, and so could not form a part of any of his contracts; and to give Mr. Lo the benefit of the Indian's right to sell his daughter, and his free knowledge and consent, then to thrust upon him, unsought, the white man's privilege of making her a legal wife, is doubling advantages in the fashion usually adopted, when we come to treat with these Government pets. A white man claims the right to marry his daughter, the Indian to sell his. We grant this, and voluntarily add that!

Were the late Peace Commissioners, who have been serving their country by arming Indians with Spencer rifles and scalping knives for the next massacre, all married men? If not, their heirs and assigns had better look to it, for as surely as day follows night, there are Indian wives and babies to loom up in the future. Nay, I do not see why a white man's marriage should bar the claims of a subsequent Indian spouse. With Utah a tenth espousal is as legal as a first; and if we begin to legalize their marriage rights, why should we make invidious distinctions, distinctions unknown to their code, and incompatible with their system of government?

This case is calculated to call attention to a curious characteristic of the genus homo, and this is the readiness with which the male of the species goes back, from civilization to barbarism, at one bound, and the tenacity with which the female holds on to every foot of progress gained. Of the tens of thousands of white men, of all nations, thrown into contact with savages, scarce one fails to contract an Indian marriage; and, if circumstances do not interfere, they live and die in these connections, while of the very few civilized women known to have married savages, scarce one has failed to be supremely wretched, and to seek for escape from her degradation.

Those young ladies who spend their whole time in decorating their persons in order to make themselves agreeable to the other sex, have no idea how unnecessary is all their labor, no idea how irresistable, to the ordinary man, is a woman in a greasy, gray blanket. If they could see, as I have seen, the Chippewa and Sioux belles who are eagerly sought, as partners, by white *gentlemen* (?), men of culture, men of property and standing, of fine business qualifications and cultivated characters," they would know how little dress has to do with feminine attractions. A pair of moccasins, do. leather leggins, one dirty blanket and a pound of beads is all that is required. No changes and no Saratoga trunks! The bride carries her trousseau on her back, and her pressing need of a fine-tooth-comb does not materially interfere with the raptures of the honeymoon.

Well, it is not strange that it is so. Those women are all that is required of the sex, by the conservatism of the age. They are "wives and mothers," and this is just what press and pulpit join in demanding that all women shall be. This and nothing more is the cuckoo cry which has greeted every demand for the elevation and emancipation of the women of this land. To be "wives and mothers! wives and mothers" is the demand which every boy and driveling greybeard makes of one-half the citizens of the Republic. That they may be bound to this, and this alone, they are to be disfranchised and classed with idiots and uncivilized Indians; they are to be legislated for as and about like imbeciles, or insane persons; they are to be required to labor, at starvation prices, that no resource but the wife and mother business may be left to them, and when they adopt this, "all they can acquire by their labor, service or art, belongs to their husbands." In consideration of this surrender of their natural right to the use and control of their own persons, and the proceeds of their own toil, they are to get just such shelter, food and clothing as the owner of their labor may please to provide, or a jury of men with interests in common with him, may adjudge to be "suitable to her condition."

This is the position which church and State have united in assigning to the women of this Christian land, the position which they have united in teaching the men of the land to believe is her heaven appointed place; and, as squaws are about the only class of women who stay contentedly in it, is it any wonder that men, so educated, embrace the first opportunity of forming unions with one of these models of their sex? Who ever heard of a squaw wanting any voice in making the laws which govern her; or one who claims a right to the custody of her child? Who ever heard of one of them complaining that she carried the family goods and chattles on her back, while her lord and master walked, unburdened, by her side, and urged her forward? When did she feel aggrieved that he beat and kicked her, and that she was less to him than his pony or his dog? Verily, these are the model women of church and State, the wives and mothers, who put the "strong-minded" sisterhood to shame; and can we wonder that so many men fail to see the betterness

"of fifty years of Europe, than a cycle of Cathay."

and so employ some dark-skinned woman, that she may rear their dusky race? The question now is, what we are to do with these nimble lance-hurlers, rainbow-leapers, supple-jointed, when they come to claim the lands and houses so long accorded to their stiff-kneed, club-footed half-brothers and sisters, and it is one we may well regard with wide-eyed interest.

JANE GREY SWISSHELM.

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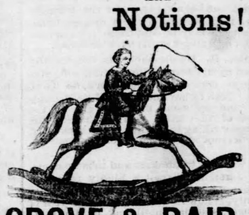

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We are making Steel Castings, Smooth, True, Free from Porosity, capable of receiving Very High Polish, Can be Forged or Welded equally as Bar Steel, and Strong as Forged Steel. Send for Circular.
PITTSBURGH STEEL CASTING CO.,
Twenty-sixth and Railroad streets, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Black Diamond Steel Works.
PARK, BROTHER & CO.,
Manufacturers of All Descriptions of
STEEL.
Office and Warehouse: Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Railroad streets, Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh Steel Works.
ANDERSON & WOODS,
SUCCESSORS TO ANDERSON, COOK & CO.
MANUFACTURERS OF
Best Refined Cast Steel
Of Every Description; Also, BEST
Refined German Plow & Spring Steel
CORNER ROSS AND FIRST AVENUE,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Sheffield Steel Works.
SINGER, NIMICK & CO.,
Manufacturers of All Descriptions of
STEEL.
BEST REFINED TOOL CAST STEEL.
CAST AND GERMAN PLOW AND SPRING STEEL.
CIRCULAR AND LONG SAW PLATES.
ELLIPTIC, PLATE AND SCROLL SPRINGS.
AXLES AND STEEL TIRE.
SLEIGH SHOE AND RUBBER PLATES.
STEEL FORGINGS MADE TO ORDER.
83 Water and 100 First Ave., Pittsburgh.

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ROOFING.
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CORNER
Liberty and Eleventh Sts.
Opposite the Grain Elevator, Pittsburgh, Pa.
SLATE DEALERS AND ROOFERS.
Sole Agents for the Celebrated
Chapman Slate.

GRAVEL
ROOFING.
Roofs Repaired.
W. B. LUPTON & CO.,
54 PENN AVE..

High Woodside,
Roofer and Dealer in

SLATE!
Office—0 PENN STREET, opposite Fort Wayne Freight Depot,
PITTSBURGH, PA.
All Orders promptly attended to. Work done by experienced workmen.

FIRE BRICK.

SAVAGE, GLADE & SAVAGE
Mountain Fire Brick,
WARRANTED EQUAL TO ANY FIRE BRICK IN THE MARKET.
J. & J.M. PORTER,
Manufacturers at Sole Agents for the sale of the above named Brick.
Also, Manufacturers of WEST VIRGINIA FIRE BRICK AND FLANGE LININGS.
P. O. Address—BW CUMBERLAND, W. VA.
Pittsburgh Office No. 3 SMITHFIELD STREET, Monongahela House Building.

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PITTSBURGH FLINT GLASS WORKS
ESTABLISHED 1808.
BAKEWELL, PEARS & CO.,
Factory, Office and Warehouse, BIRMHAM STREET, between Sixth and Ninth streets, South Side, Pittsburgh.
J. P. PEARS. B. BAKEWELL, Jr.,
B. BAMPBELL.

WM. HOLMES.....JAMES IRWIN
JAMES IRWIN & CO.,
OIL OF VITRIOL, MURIATIC ACID, NITRIC ACID, ENGLISH CAUSTIC SODA, and AQUA AMMONIA.
OFFICE—NO. 15 MARKET ST., PITTSBURGH.

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ST. CLAIR BANKING COMPANY,
No. 16 SIXTH STREET,
Transact a General Banking Business, Draw Bills of Exchange on J. S. Morgan & Co., London, and Belfast Banking Co., Belfast; execute orders in Stocks, Bonds and Gold at the New York and Philadelphia Stock Boards, on Commission only. Stocks carried on a margin and contracts guaranteed.
ROBERT ARTHURS, President.
L. HALSEY WILLIAMS, Cashier.

ROAD TO FORTUNE
IN WALL STREET.
Money invested in PUTS, CALLS and DOUBLE PRIVILEGES has paid 200 per cent. profit the past month. Small or large amounts pay proportionately. The wealthiest operators protect themselves with these contracts, and also use them as Capital to buy and sell Stocks against. Pamphlet giving full explanation sent on application. Stocks Bought and Sold on Times Per Cent. Margin. Address
DARRAGH, BRIDGEMAN & Co
BANKERS AND BROKERS,
52 & 56 Broadway and 7 Exchange Court,
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Postoffice Box 3026.

BANKS AND BANKERS.

People's Savings Bank
OF PITTSBURGH.
CAPITAL.....$300,000
INCORPORATED 1866.
No. 81 FOURTH AVENUE,
Next below the Safe Deposit Company.
HENRY LLOYD.....President.
WM. BELL.....Vice President.
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Wm. Rea, Horne Stowe,
Edward Gregg, R. H. Hartley,
Thos. Wightman, G. W. Hallman,
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SIDNEY E. VON BONNHORST,
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Six Per Cent. Interest allowed on Time Deposits. Investments made in Government and Real Estate Securities.
Bank open daily, except Sundays, from 9 o'clock A. M. to 4 o'clock P. M., and on Saturday Evenings, from 6 to 9 o'clock.

The Tradesmen's National Bank
HAS REMOVED TO ITS
New Banking Rooms,
Cor. Wood St. and Fourth Ave.,
Where its Officers will be pleased to see all its old customers and such new ones as may favor it with their patronage.
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OF PITTSBURGH,
NO. 33 FIFTH AVENUE
CAPITAL STOCK - - $500,000
J. W. COOK.....President.
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SAFE DEPOSIT CO.,
OF PITTSBURGH,
Chartered by Special Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, for the
Safe Keeping of Valuables,
UNDER GUARANTEE, AND THE
Renting of Safes
IN ITS
FIRE AND BURGLAR-PROOF VAULTS.
BUILDING AND OFFICE:
No. 83 FOURTH AVENUE, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Office Hours—From 8 o'clock A. M. to 5 o'clock P. M.
President.....HENRY LLOYD.
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BANKERS,
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DEPOSITS RECEIVED IN PAR FUNDS AND CURRENCY.
COLLECTIONS MADE ON ALL THE PRINCIPAL POINTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADAS.
STOCKS, BONDS AND OTHER SECURITIES
Bought and Sold on Commission.
Particular attention paid to the Purchase and Sale of UNITED STATES SECURITIES.

HART, CAUGHEY & CO.
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(Successors to HANNA, HART & CO.,)
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Particular attention paid to the Purchase and Sale of GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.
SIGHT DRAFTS ON LONDON.
E. K. JAMISON, W. M. STEWART, J. H. KEESHOW.
ESTABLISHED 1853.

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Dealers in Pittsburgh Bonds and all other Investment Securities.
Loans negotiated on marketable collaterals at current rates.
Deposits of Banks and Bankers received, subject to check at sight. Interest allowed according to agreement.

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BANKERS AND BROKERS,
No. 38 South Third St.
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Dealers in GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, GOLD SILVER, &c.
Stocks and Bonds bought and sold on Commission. Particular attention given to Investments.

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LAING & McKALLIP,
DEALERS IN
GRAIN, FLOUR, FEED,
Baled Hay, &c.
GENERAL AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED
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Calcined Plaster, White Lime.
SOLE AGENTS OF CELEBRATED
WILKESBARRE ANTHRACITE COAL.
347 Liberty Street,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

CALDWELL & CO.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
AND DEALERS IN
GRAIN, HAY AND PRODUCE,
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Orders for shipment and consignment solicited and promptly attended to.

HENRY REA, Jr.,
PRODUCE COMMISSION MERCHANT,
Receives and Sells
GRAIN, SEEDS, HAY, MILL FEED, APPLES, POTATOES, BUTTER, EGGS, CHEESE, POULTRY, GAME, &c.
305 Liberty St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

FLOUR.
Best Brands of Winter and Spring Wheat Flour,
In store and to arrive. For Sale by
D. WALLACE.

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J. H. MORRISON,
MANUFACTURER OF ALL KINDS OF
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BOXES, FLOORING, RAILINGS, LATHS, NAIL KEGS, &c.
OFFICE AND WORKS:
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PETROLEUM.

WARING BROS.,
Successors to Waring & King,
Commission Merchants in Petroleum and its Products,
49 Fifth Avenue.
Pittsburgh address, WARING BROTHERS & CO., 36 Walnut street.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, December 17, 1874.

The local market exhibits the usual activity prior to the holidays. This is, however, true only of the retail notion trade, and does not extend to the general markets. Money is stiffening somewhat, and some of the banks report their discount lines full. Satisfactory paper can, however, be sold without much difficulty at fair rates. The close of the year always brings with it many imperative settlements, and therefore it is but natural to look for dearer money during the remainder of the year. Much of the capital which was idle at this point during the summer and fall, is now withdrawn, performing the important functions of moving the grain and pork crops. The comparative prices of pork for this date and that of a corresponding date last year shows an advance which is discouraging to the packers and other wholesale dealers. Nearly double the amount of capital is necessary to carry on the same amount of business that was needed last season, the price of cured meats, as compared with live stock, precludes any chance of reaping a profit. The bulls point to the short crop as a reason why prices should be sustained, but they overlook the fact that the classes that are the chief consumers of pork, and receiving low wages and are compelled in every way to curtail their expense. In addition to this the foreign demand is not up to that of last season by fully fifty per cent. so that the outlook is sustained at higher prices is not encouraging. Under these circumstances the large packers are buying cautiously, and are not calling for the usual amount of discounts from the banks.

—The annual report of the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad has been given to the public. From this we learn that the operating expenses were 75 per cent. in 1874, 65.46 per cent. in 1873, and 67.84 per cent. in 1872. Included in the operating expenses for 1874 was the cost of track material, $311,386. If this was charged to construction the operating expenses would have been 68.58 per cent. The increase in operating expenses and the decrease in net earnings for 1874 are attributed to the charging of track materials to operating expenses and the low rates received for passengers and freight. Those low rates caused a difference of $616,034 in the earnings. The Atlantic and Great Western is not the only road that has suffered from low rates during 1874, nearly every railroad in the country having been affected thereby. The great falling off in the iron traffic of Lake Superior the past season, caused an unusually large amount of sail tonnage on the lakes to seek grain freights, and hence throughout the navigation season freights between Chicago and Buffalo were lower than ever before. This, of course, compelled the trunk lines to carry freight eastward at rates which left but little or no profit.

The company is now in the hands of a receiver. According to the report just published, the accrued interest on bonded debt and rentals for 1874 alone amounts to $2,726,568, while the net earnings for 1874 were only $1,208,941, which indicates that a reorganization of the company is necessary.

—The farmers and Mechanics bank of Rochester, New York, was one of the unfortunates that went down during the panic. The assignee in bankruptcy, Hector McLean, Esq., has just filed his first report of the condition of the assets of the bank. At the meeting of creditors the assignee read a report of the measures he has taken to realize the value of the assets of the bank. He has on hand about $55,000 in cash, after paying various disbursements. Of this sum $2,000 goes to the State, as a preferred debtor, and there is a further claim of $10,000, and $857 64 due the United States for taxes. So that but about $20,000 is available for a dividend, and not more than ten per cent on a dollar can now be divided among the creditors. The amount of debts proved is $204,835 68. By a unanimous vote of the creditors, a dividend of ten per cent. was ordered to be made. A number of suits have been commenced by the assignee to recover moneys claimed to belong to the bank and held by directors and other parties. A vote of thanks to the assignee was unanimously adopted.

OFFICE OF TRADE & STONE,
BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET,
PHILADELPHIA, December 17, 1874.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The stock market has been very irregular during the week, with a pitiless slaughter in the morning. The unfavorable reports about the Pacific Mail Company, and the subsidy have evidently come almost entirely from outside holders, and we also notice railroad companies in many instances have suspicious cast upon them in New York. Doubtless some of their maturing interest, obligations which also produce some uneasiness in the minds of the unwary. We cannot help thinking but our whole market is being manipulated by some few powerful cliques who are not preparing stocks for the usual January rise, and that the large sum to be paid with Pacific Mail and Wabash, both of which are now universally spoken of among brokers as sixty days, will be largely cut down more. We judge from appearances that while a considerable amount of stock has been on sale (discount) in sixty days, the amount of the same stocks have been bought by the same parties in the regular way. Yours truly,
TRADE & STONE.

—The following table shows the price of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 17, 1874.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:00
	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Gold	113	113	113¼	113⅛	113⅛	113⅛
6s, '67, coupon	117	117				
5-20s, 1862	117	117				
5-20s, 1864	117	117				
5-20s, 1865, reg	117	117				
5-20s, 1865, coup	117	117				
5-20s, 1867	117	117				
5-20s, 1868	117	117				
10-40s, reg	115	115				
10-40s, coupon	115	115				
6s, currency	126	126				
Pacific 6s, 1895	107	107				
Western Union Tel	82¾	82	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾
Quicksilver	28	28				
Quicksilver pref	38	38				
Pacific Mail	117	116	115⅝			
Panama	117	116	115⅝			
Adams Express	84	84	84			
Wells-Fargo Express	82	82	82			
American Express	54	54	54			
United States Exp	64					64¼
New York Central	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾
Erie	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾
Erie preferred	40	40	40	40	40	40
Michigan Central	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾
Michigan Southern	87¾	87¾	87¾	87¾	87¾	87¾
Illinois Central	107	107	107	107	107	107
Chicago & Northw'n	47¾	46¾	46¾	47	46¾	46¾
Chicago & Northw'n pref						
Rock Island	103¼	103¼	103¼	103¼	103¼	103¼
Pittsburgh	87¾		87¾	88	88	88
Do preferred	97		97			
Wabash, common	28	28	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾
Ohio & Mississippi	31	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾
Ohio & Miss. pref	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾
Harlem	130		130			
Hannibal & St. Jo	29		29			
Do C. & S. A	9	9	9	9¼	9¼	9¼
Do C. & P. A	7	7	7	7	7	7
Tennessee, old	27		27			
Tennessee, new	27		27			
South Carolina, Apr	7		7			
South Carolina, Jan	7		7			
Missouri 6s	87½		87½			

The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central, sales	52¾	
Pennsylvania Central scrip, sales	105	
Reading	36¾	
United Co.'s of New Jersey	129½	
Gold	113⅛	113¼
High Valley, sales	62	
Allegheny Valley, sales	91¼	
Central Transportation	50	
Empire Transportation	55	
Gold	113⅛	113¼

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
THURSDAY, December 17, 1874.

Trade to-day showed no unusual features, the movement of merchandise generally being rather slow but steady. Prices showed no material change from former quotations.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce by rail since our last, are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,362	Apples, bbls	140
Corn, bush	4,000	Wheat, bush	1,000
Barley, sks	1,330	Oats, sks	6,230
Butter, pkgs	61	Bacon tes	16
Hay, loads	2		

The following quotations are prices realized on wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge in advance. Sales of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator:

GRAIN, FLOUR AND FEED.

GRAIN—The grain market to-day continued quiet, with buyers still disposed to hold off. Receipts are increasing, the total reported to-day being 33,908 bushels. We quote choice Kentucky white wheat at $1 35@1 39 per bushel; mixed Michigan, $1 25@1 27; Ohio and Illinois ditto $1 23@1 25; Ohio and Pennsylvania red wheat $1 20@1 25. Corn was rather slow of sale at about previous prices. We quote 77@78c per bushel for high-mixed and yellow; 76@77c for low-mixed. Oats far is in fair supply but light demand with prices easy. The market is comfortably stocked at about 39@40c on track. Oats were in slight demand, and on Change prime white were offered at 65c. We quote at 64@65c for white; 60@63c for mixed. Barley and rye were unchanged. The following is a report of sales, some of which have been made for two days and were omitted from our last report:

2 cars shelled corn, high-mixed, on track.....76c
2 cars shelled corn, high-mixed.....76
2 cars shelled corn, low-mixed.....76
1 car shelled corn, high-mixed.....77c
1 car shelled corn, high-mixed.....77
2 cars white oats, to arrive.....65c
1 car white oats, to arrive.....65c

FLOUR—The following are the wholesale prices of the local millers: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 20 @ bbl; No. 1 amber wheat do $ 50; red winter flour in sacks 50c off @ bbl. The jobbing prices of leading dealers are as follows: Choice to fancy of white winter wheat flour, 50 @ 25. Wisconsin $5 75; Minnesota $5 75@6 00; red winter wheat flour $5 75@6 00; spring wheat $5 50; Graham flour $5 50; buckwheat flour $5 @ 5 25 per package; $6 25 @ 6 50 per 100 pounds; corn meal, $4 75@5 00; rye flour $5 00@5 50; cracked wheat $7 50 @ 8 00. We note the shipment of 815 bbls of St. Louis flour, on its way to this market by river, not yet received.

HAY—We quote prime timothy, on track, at $22 50@23 50 per ton; No. 1 do do $20 00@21 00; mixed timothy and clover do do $18 00@19 00. Loose hay selling at $21 00@22 00. Loose hay reaching at $20 00@22 00 for No. 1; $18 00@19 00 for No. 2. Straw is quoted at $15 00@16 00 per ton. We note the sale of 1 car prime timothy baled at $20 50.

MILL FEED—Bran is steady at $1 05@1 10 per cwt; shorts at $1 20@1 40 per cwt; middlings $1 50@1 60 per cwt; chopped feed $1 70@1 80 per cwt; oil meal $1 90@2 00 per cwt. We note the shipment by river of 1,500 sacks of feed from St. Louis to this city.

GROCERIES.

There continues to be a moderately quiet trade for groceries, at unchanged prices. We quote as follows:

Green Coffees.	@	Spices.	
Fancy	21 c	Cloves, pure	35 c
Choice	20½ c	Allspice, @ bbl	12½@14½c
Prime	19 c	Cassia, @ lb	20 c
Good	18 c	Nutmegs, @ lb	$1 30@1 40
Java	33 c	Pepper, @ lb	22½ c
Roasted Coffees.		Molasses.	
Rio in papers	25@28 c	Strictly choice N O	75c
Rio, in bulk	25 c	Prime	70c
Java	40 c	Good	68c
Sugars.		Syrups.	
Standard A	10½c	Ex. white drips	75c
Standard B	10¼c	Sugar drips	65c
Standard extra C	10¼c	Lower grades	45@50c
Standard harbs	10½c	Petroleum.	
Franklin extra C	9½c	Layers, @ bx	$3 40
American extra C	9½c	Valentia, @ lb	11½c
New Orleans	9¾@9½c	Currants	10 c
Teas.		Prunes	12 @13½c
Young Hyson	50c@$1 00	Starch.	
Imperial	50c@1 00	Common	5 c
Japan	50c@1 00	Silver glass	9½c
Oolong	25c@ 50	Corn	10½c
Fancy	1 00	Soda.	
Souchong	25c@ 80	Bi-carb, @ 10 lb kgs	6c
Rice.		Bi-carb, @ lb papers	8c
Choice Carolina	8½c	Candles.	
Prime	7¾@8c	Star, full weight	18c
Rangoon	7¼c	Stearine	19c

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
THURSDAY, December 17, 1874.

There is little change in the market for petroleum and its products, crude and refined, both being steady at former quotations.

CRUDE.

We quote United, 42 wells, at 60@62½c; Union do 57½c; Pennsylvania pipe do 55c; outside lines, at wells, 42½c. Sales of 7,800 barrels are reported at quotations.

REFINED.

The market continues steady, with a fair demand from Eastern buyers for foreign export. We quote at 9@9½c for standard white on the cars.

New York—Refined rules at 11¼@11½c.

Philadelphia—Spot refined is quoted at 11½c.

Naphtha—Spot naphtha is quoted at 7½c.

Benzine—Spot benzine is quoted at 10½c.

The Courier says: There was little activity in the market, there being slight disposition to operate on the part of buyers or sellers. Prices remain about the same. Sales:

2,500 bbls, upper road, spot.....82½c
500 bbls, upper road, spot.....82½c
1,000 bbls, Oil City, spot.....82½c
1,000 bbls, Oil City, spot.....83½c
2,000 bbls, Parkers, United, at wells.....80c
800 bbls, Parkers, United, at wells.....80 c
1,000 bbls, Parkers, United, at wells.....55 c
2,000 bbls, Parkers, Union, at wells.....57½c
2,000 bbls, Parkers, Penn'a, at wells.....55 c
1,000 bbls, Parkers, outside lines.....55 c

NEW YORK, December 17, closing 16.—Crude in bulk is selling moderately with 9¼c quoted; refined offered with more reserve at steadier prices, but the export trade is still limited; quoted at 11¼@11½c; sales of 1,500 bbls crude in bulk at 9¼c; refined in cases 16¾@16½c for shinest city naptha quoted at 19½c. Philadelphia delivery quiet and lower; refined quoted at 11½c.

TITUSVILLE, December 17.—Market firm; quoted at 82¼@83½c.

OIL CITY, December 17.—Market nominally easy.

ROUSEVILLE, December 17.—Market quiet but steady at 75@77½c.

PETROLEA CENTER, December 17.—Market steady and unchanged at 50c bid at wells.

PETROLIA CENTER, December 17.—Market firm at 75@77½c.

PARKERS, December 17.—Market quiet; refined 62½c; tunnelling shipment 62½c.

PHILADELPHIA, December 17.—Market steady; 11¼@11½c; crude 8¼@8½c; cases 16½c; futures and sales quiet.

Crude Oil Received by A. V. B. R.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
Rollinson	Hasbrook & Vantine	177
M. S. Howe	Sunbeam O W	155
Greer & Camp	Keystone O W	74
Total		706

PITTSBURGH DRY GOODS MARKET

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
THURSDAY, December 17, 1874.

BROWN COTTONS.

Anchor A	10 c	Idaho	9½c
Eagle	10 c	Dunsmoir	8½c
Cotswago	9½c	Magnolia	8 c

PRINTS.

Merrimacks	8½@9 c	Anchor shirting	8½@9 c
Richmond	8½@9 c	Richmond	8½@9 c
Americans	8 c	Pacifics	8½c
Cheviots	8½@9 c	Mourning	8½c
Pinks	8½@9 c	Garner	7¾@8½c
Manchester	8½@9 c	Allens	8½c
Simpson's in'gs	8½@9 c	Amoskeag	9 c

GINGHAMS.

Lancaster	11½c	Americas	8 c
Amoskeag	10 c	Dyed Ticks	9 c
Glasgow	10 c	Do	8 c

FLANNELS.

Hamilton	42½ to 70c	Manchester	37½c
Particle	37½ to 50c	Atlantic	37½c

TICKINGS.

Whitaker	37 c	Conestoga C T	17 c
Portsmouth	28 c	Conestoga C O A	15 c
Hamilton	20 c	Hagley	13½c
Conestoga Medal	19 c	Allegheny X	11½c

BLEACHED COTTONS.

4-4 Canoe	6 c	4-4 Fruit of Loom	12½c
7-8 Conestoga	7½c	4-4 Suffolk	10 c
4-4 Hamilton	9 c	4-4 Lonsdale	12½c
4-4 Reynolds	9 c	4-4 Pepperell	13 c
4-4 Utica	9 c	9-4 Pepperell	15 c
4-4 Lonsdale	12 c		

The following revised list of sheeting, bagging and other home manufactures will show the quotations:

SHEETINGS.

4-4 Penn Mill, A No. 1	10 c	4-4 Nonantook	9½c
4-4 Pittsburgh lambly, 10	9½c	4-4 Wabash B, dun	8½c

BAGGING.

Penn Mill, 2 bush	32 c	Penn Mill 2¼ bush	36 c
Penn Mill, 3 bush	34 c		

MISCELLANEOUS.

White Cartel Chain	9½c	Colored Carpet chain	9½c
Do	9½c	Do	9½c
Cotton Batting	16@16½c	Cotton Twine	27 c

CRACKER MARKET.

PITTSBURGH, December 17, 1874.

American Fruit Biscuit	12 c	Honey Jumbles	12 c
Arrowroot	12 c	Honey Drops	12 c
Alexandra Nuts	14 c	Iced Cream Cakes	11 c
Almond Nuts	11 c	Lemon Biscuit	11 c
Boston Fruit Crack'r	12 c	Lemon Snaps	11 c
Boston Toast Crack'r	12 c	Lemon Sugar	11 c
Do	10 c	Martin Washington	11 c
Butter Crackers	6½c	Milk Biscuit, (extra)	9 c
Cinnamon Crackers	11 c	Mixed Biscuit	11 c
Crumpet	15 c	Nic-Nac	13 c
Coffee Cakes, in bulk	9 c	Oatmeal Crackers	16 c
Cracker Meal, Pilot	7 c	N. Y. Water Crackers	8 c
Round package	9c	Orange Cakes	11 c
Centennial	12 c	Orientals	13 c
Congress Cakes	14 c	Oy

CITY MATTERS.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., December 17, 1874.

Time	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum.	WIND. Dir.	WIND. Force.	Weath.
7 A M	29.31	42	85	W.	Fresh.	Cloudy
2 P M	29.03	38	81	W.	Fresh.	Cloudy
9 P M	29.14	33	90	N.	Fresh.	Cloudy

Mean barometer....29.49 Highest thermom....47
Mean thermom.....36 Lowest thermom.....33
Rainfall.....04

A Well Bestowed Compliment.

At the St. Agnes church fair, which closed Wednesday evening, our popular Assistant Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, John Hamill, was awarded the elegant gold watch in contest there. The contest was between Mr. Hamill and Mr. John Freyvogle, or rather between some of their friends, and Johnny carried off the prize, which he wears with his usual modesty.

In a Dangerous Condition.

Mr. John A. Latman, who was shot in a mine of the Duquesne Coal Company's works, near Swissvale, while attending to his duties as Superintendent, at last accounts is in a precarious condition. He received two shots, and Dr. Donnelly, who is attending him, fears that he cannot recover. No information as to the assailants has been obtained.

A Domestic Accused of Larceny.

Mary Stolder, a domestic in the house of Mrs. Boswell, a dressmaker on Sandusky street, Allegheny, was arrested and confined in the lock-up last evening for a hearing on the charge of larceny. It is sworn to by Mrs. Bosworth that from time to time she has missed various small articles from her house, and a few days ago a dress pattern and a quilt, valued at fifty dollars, disappeared, and that she believes the accused stole them. The stolen goods have not been recovered.

Burglary.

The residence of Mrs. McCallum, No. 55 Centre avenue, was visited, for the second time within two weeks, by burglars on Wednesday night, who gained an entrance to the cellar by removing a large stone from the wall. Access was had thence into the kitchen and a small room over it, but they failed in their efforts to get into the main part of the house. Some of the doors were badly splintered by an iron bar which the burglars used in trying to force them open. So far as ascertained no plunder was secured. Mrs. McCallum is absent from the city, and no one stays in the house at present.

The Outrage on the Italian Miners.

The Philadelphia *Press* says: "In their humane care for the safety of grouse, deer, salmon and other game, the Legislature of Pennsylvania does well, but it is beginning to be a question whether the shield of their protection should not be extended by statute over Italians. The coroner's verdict in the murdered Italian mine workmen, near Pittsburgh, leaves little hope that equal and exact justice will be done. Death from bullets and gunshot wounds from weapons in the hands of parties "to the jury unknown" is the euphemism under which the authorities of the county confess their inability to confront the mob that has cowed them.

The Reorganization of the Police.

The committee on the reorganization of the police department of the city met yesterday afternoon. The Chairman, Mr. Braun, submitted an outline, which was discussed at some length. It being apparent that nothing could be prepared in time for the action of the present Councils, a motion was adopted for the appointment of a sub-committee to draft a bill covering existing laws and regulations, with such new matter as may be deemed proper, and report to the general committee. It is the intention to have the bill ready for reporting soon after the organization of the new Councils. Messrs. Braun, Fox and Anderson were appointed on the sub-committee.

Special Meetings at Fourth Avenue Baptist Church.

For ten or fourteen days, nightly meetings have been held at this church. The pastor, Dr. Pearson, has had the powerful assistance of Rev. Edwin Burnham, a able evangelist, of Boston. The results have been marked and gratifying. Already the inquirers are numbered by the score, and not a few have been received into the church. The deepening interest led the church, last night, to urge Mr. Burnham to remain a few days longer. He will do so, and none should miss the opportunity of hearing this preacher. In clearness of doctrine and pathos of delivery he has few equals.

A Non-suit and a New Suit.

The lad Dalzell, who has been in prison five weeks, on a charge of having stolen a few crackers at a bakery, was brought before Judge Collier yesterday. Gen. Pearson suggested a *nol. pros.*, as he believed the boy was honest, and had taken the crackers to prevent starvation. The Court consented to the proposition, and the boy was released. Immediately after this order was made, a collection was taken up among the attorneys in the court room, and a sufficient sum raised in a few moments to buy young Dalzell a new suit of clothes. Gen. Pearson will endeavor to secure work for him in this city, and if unsuccessful in this the boy will be sent back to his home in Philadelphia.

Larceny of a Watch.

Wm. Crose was arrested yesterday, on a warrant issued by the Acting Mayor, sworn out by Mrs. Anna Maria Crozier, who complains that Crose did steal from her a watch, valued at $80, and one dollar and seventy-five cents in money. At a hearing of the case yesterday afternoon, Mrs. Crozier testified that the accused came to her place of business on Wylie avenue, and asked for a situation as barkeeper. Just to show her what he could do in that line, he went behind the counter and waited on customers. Afterward Mrs. C. missed her watch, which was in a satchel in the bar. Another witness testified that he saw the accused take one dollar from the drawer and give it to a customer to spend, it was supposed, to make business look lively; and at another time he took out seventy-five cents. The prisoner was, in default of $500 bail, committed for trial.

Horrible Death of an Infant.

The Coroner held an inquest yesterday on the body of an infant thirteen days old, which came to its death by being suffocated by its drunken mother. We glean from the testimony that the mother, Mrs. Mary Montgomery, resides on Hill street, and is a woman of very dissipated habits; that her husband left her a few months ago, on account of her intemperance; that since, left to make her way alone, she has been living with a family in one of a row of small brick houses on Hill street, opposite Phillips' glass house. She continued her dissipated habits, and as soon after the birth of her child—thirteen days ago—as she was able to leave her bed she drank even worse than before. Wednesday night she retired to bed very drunk and yesterday morning about half-past ten an inmate of the house went to the bed occupied by Mrs. M. and found the infant dead, the mother in her drunken state having rolled upon and smothered it. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the facts brought out in the evidence.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following deeds were filed of record in the office of Ralph J. Richardson, County Recorder, December 17, 1874:

PITTSBURGH.

Twenty-first ward—Henry J. Howe to Sarah A. G. Freeman, August 4, 1874, 1 acre.....$ 2,250
Twenty-seventh ward—Sheriff Hare to H. Burg'n, December 5, 1874, lot 29x90 feet, Wade street.....400
Fourteenth ward—Henry Saively to Wm. Archibald, January 2, 1875; lot 30x82 feet, White Oak street.....1,200
Thirty-second ward—Thomas Nelson to Mrs. Susan Hamilton, November 1, 1874; lot 30x100 feet, Virginia street.....2,000
Nineteenth ward—Mrs. Keziah P. Negley to Joseph H. Hill, January 15, 1874; two lots 60 feet, Broad street.....2,000
Twentieth ward—John Beecher to Maj. M. Bryan, October 1, 1874; lot 25½x120 feet, Walnut street.....3,100
Twelfth ward—Thos. M. Howe to Curtis G. Hussey, December 1, 1874; one-fourth part lot 119x120 feet, Allegheny, Twenty-first street.....Nominal.
Nineteenth ward—Henry B. Chess to Chas. H. Martin, December 4, 1874; lot 34x94 feet, Heberton street.....3,000
Eighteenth ward—Christian Siebert to Peter Keil, August 3, 1874; lot 30x99.39 feet.....Nominal.
Fourteenth ward—John Lynch to Henry Toole, November 7, 1874; lot 24x100 feet, Middle alley.....1,750

ALLEGHENY.

Tenth ward—John S. Hall to Christopher Gress, August 20, 1874; lot N 15th, Hall's plan.....185

BOROUGHS.

Chartiers—James Nelson to James Gallagher, 1873; lot 40x182 feet, John street.....400

TOWNSHIPS.

Robinson—J. K. Cubbage to James Ford, May 23d, 1876; lot 96x180 feet.....500
Mifflin—David K. Calhoun to Emson Boles, October 24, 1874; lot on Wood street.....1,100
Plum—Dr. L. R. Metzgar to Joseph H. Gray, December 15, 1874; one lot.....175
Versailles—Wm. H. Berger to Sarah A. Freeman, December 4, 1869; one-sixth interest in three lots 33x150 feet, on Water street, Port Perry.....200
West Deer—Elizabeth Leslie to Thomas Love, November 6th, 1874; 29 acres 1 rood 4 perches land.....2,500

Directors of the Franklin Savings Bank,

Allegheny: Geo. R. Riddle, of Riddle, Coleman & Co., President; D. Macferron, City Treasurer, J. W. Ball, Attorney, Simon Drum, Hardware Merchant, R. H. Knox, Contractor, Geo. D. Riddle, Secretary Ben Franklin Insurance Company, R. W. Cartwright, of Stevenson & Cartwright.

Several Millions

in value represented by stockholders in Franklin Savings Bank, Allegheny, who are individually liable to depositors. No better security offered anywhere.

THE INDIAN WOMAN'S CLAIM.

Opening of the Defense—The Claim Sold for a Song to a Speculator—Alleged Corruption and Perjury—No Legal Marriage, etc.

The trial of Meister vs. Bissell and others was continued in the United States Circuit Court yesterday, before Judge McKennan, a large audience being present to hear the opening for the defense.

THE DEFENSE FORESHADOWED.

S. Schoyer, Jr., opened the case for the defendants. He stated that the evidence would develop that there was no real marriage between Mowry and his reputed wife: that Mowry himself repeatedly repudiated the idea; that the claim was "trumped up," by heartless speculators, and supported, so far as some of the parties were concerned, by perjury and corruption. Said the speaker: It is not surprising, gentlemen, that suits should be the case when we consider the immense value of the property in dispute. The Lucy Furnace, one of the most costly and complete properties of its kind, lies on this tract. The Keystone Bridge Company's property, also of immense value, is there; and the fifty-six acres of the Cemetery, swell the total value into an enormous aggregate, making it almost payable that fraud, perjury and corruption are at work in this. And, gentleman of the jury, it is not the wife nor the daughter of Mowry whoappears to contest this invaluable claim, but a mere speculator, who has paid almost *nothing* to the alleged wife and child for their claims. Not only this, but we are prepared to show that even the paper which was given to these women as security, has been filched from them by Louis Tromly.

Again, they have utterly failed to show that marriage in any form took place. In the times in which these occurrences are said to have taken place, Michigan was a complete wilderness, and the Indians unciviliz'd. The sexual relations of the traders and Indians were of the most promiscuous kind. There was neither ceremony nor solemnity, and any such relation was dissolved at will. Why, a trader at that time might possess half-a-dozen wives, or a wife at every trading post. Further, subsequent to such relations with Indians, traders and whites, generally, had no hesitation in contracting marriages with their own race. Again, we can show that Mowry repudiated the idea of any marriage with this Indian girl. Further, the laws of the Territory at that time *especially* provided that a marriage, to be binding, must be performed according to the laws of the Territory and by a Justice of the Peace. Mowry had ample opportunity for such a marriage, had he so desired it. And lastly, gentlemen, we shall be able to fix upon Mr. Louis Tromly, the most overwhelming evidences of corruption in this case. We can show that Mowry *never saw this child*, and that it was *not* his child. Mr. Schoyer then spoke in the strongest terms of the wrongs that would be inflicted upon innocent persons (purchasers of property), should these claims be allowed, and concluded by characterizing the whole affair as one of the "grossest frauds that has ever come to the notice of the citizens of Western Pennsylvania."

MICHIGAN TERRITORIAL LAWS.

Judge Holmes first offered in evidence the Territorial statute laws of Michigan, and the statutes of the State requiring marriages to be solemnized by ministers and magistrates, in the presence of two witnesses.

Mr. Ferguson—We object to the offer, because the Territorial laws are no longer in force; the statutes are not properly authenticated; and the statutes relative to marriage are irrelevant.

Mr. Acheson said the laws were uniform in Michigan relative to marriage, and a marriage not solemnized by a magistrate or minister in the presence of two witnesses was no marriage at all.

Mr. Ferguson then said the plaintiffs objected because the territorial laws are no longer in force, and because all subsequent acts have no bearing upon the marriage of Mowry.

Mr. Hatch said the laws would come under the instructions of the Court to the jury, but would not be admissible as evidence.

The objections were overruled and the law admitted as evidence.

Judge Holmes then read the laws regulating marriages.

THE EVIDENCE.

The following testimony was then elicited:

John Haines, Esq., one of the counsel for the defense, testified that he had examined the records in both Bay and Saginaw counties, and found no record of Mowry's marriage. The certificates of the county clerks were also offerred in evidence, to the same effect.

TESTIMONY OF DR. ROBINSON.

Dr. Robinson sworn—Am a practicing physician; have been in Lawrenceville since 1845; knew William Mowry; attended him in has last illness; he died in 1852 at his mother's house, when he was on a spree he came to my office generally to sober up; he did very well from 1847 until he died; he was at home the last three years before he died; he might have been away awhile on a visit, but his home was here; saw him during the whole three years.

The defense proposed to prove by the witness that Mowry told him of his relation to the squaw, and that it was customary with the young men in Saginaw valley to have such connections, and would follow it up by admissions of Mowry in Michigan as to his cohabitation with the squaw.

The plaintiffs objected, on the ground that Mary Reed, whose testimony was given was irrelevant, and authorities were cited where declarations of an intestate as to marriage were ruled out; similar evidence where it was shown declared out of the presence of his wife that he was married was also ruled out. Other authorities on promiscuous marriage were also cited, in which it was held that evidence going to show promiscuous marriages was not admissable.

The court overruled the objection and admitted the evidence.

Witness resumed—Mowry told me he had a squaw in Michigan, and said all the young men up there had a squaw.

TESTIMONY OF MR. M'CLURE.

James T. McClure, sworn—Lives in Lawrenceville and have been there for over forty years; knew William Mowry and remember his death; carried on boat and shoemaking, and worked for the family; saw him about home in the neighborhood of three years before he died; saw him passing the shop.

Cross-examined—He might have been away for short times.

Julius B. Hart, an old resident of Bay City, testified that he was frequently in Mowry's house, and remembering that he was well acquainted with Mr. Mowry; never saw them in company; Mowry always called the girl his squaw; witness had sold her goods as Mary Perot.

THE MARRIAGE RELATION.

Defense here proposed to prove the looseness of the sexual relation existing in the Territory at the time, but the plaintiff's counsel objected. After argument by counsel, the Court overruled the objection, but did not pass upon the validity of the testimony.

Witness continued—The custom among the Chippewas was to have three or four or five wives; if they liked them they would live with them for years; the marriage could be dissolved at pleasure by either party.

Cross-examined—Never was present at an indian marriage; don't think I ever heard an Indian talk on the subject of marriage; heard Indian traders talk on the subject; they said they did not know how they married; there was no form of marriage among the Indians; would not be broken, that I know of; I won't swear that there is not; know Michael Daley.

Question by Mr. Ferguson—Did you not say to Michael Daley, at the door of your store, in the fall of 1873, that Cooley had been to seb you about the Mowry case, that the woman and girl were Mowry's wife and daughter, but that you were not going to make any statement, on account of that d—d Jew Meister, or words to that effect?

Answer—No; what I did say was this: I told Cooley about knowing the Mowrys, and Daley came to me and asked me to go to Bay City; he said they would pay me; I told him they were never married, but merely lived together; am not on bad terms with Meister.

[Court here took a recess for half an hour.]

Captain Call, of Detroit, testified that he met Mowry in 1850, at Bay City; witness was boating, and Mowry was frequently on the boat; on one occasion he was on the boat with Mowry's reputed wife; witness saw him with a squaw, and asked him if he was married, and he said he was not, and didn't intend to marry.

INDIAN CUSTOMS.

John Greenbird, sworn. (This witness is an Indian, and a brother of Perot. He testified through an interpreter.) Mowry did not live at Perot's house; was there sometimes—the longest time he was ever there was three days; the child Elizabeth was born three months after Mowry left. Witness detailed the Indian custom of marriage. There were several ways of getting a wife. When a young man wants a wife, he goes to her and asks her to be his wife. If she is satisfied, she says they live together. Then there's another way. When they both are drinking, and they find each other while so, they live together. There is still another way. When the old folks have a young man and they know of a young woman, they take presents to the old folks and ask if they are satisfied for the young folks to live together; if it is satisfactory, they give the goods and the young folks live together. A Chippewa Indian might have three or more wives at once. Some have three wives in one wigwam. They used to live together, but could separate at pleasure. While they liked each other they remained together. When a man saw a woman he liked better than the one he had, he left the one and ran to the other. Don't know whether or not Perot was ever married; he might have been at one time, when the missionary might have held a meeting for the purpose of uniting those who were living together unmarried.

Cross examined—Think Mowry was married to my niece; gave testimony in this case last summer. Mowry would leave Perot's sometimes for a week at a time; Mowry did not live at Perot's two or three years; did not swear last summer that Mowry lived there that long; only heard Mowry call Squa-wa-sum his wife once. Was at Perot's one evening and there was a class meeting there; there was a bed in the room and Mowry was in it; he got up and came out with only his pants and coat on; he said he would like to be good; he was drunk at the time; took a drink of his bottle and the trouble it occasioned; he said it made the trouble that made his wife sick; this was the only time I ever heard him call her his wife; it was understood among the Indians that when they were married that it was for life.

Re-direct—Trombly came to see me at Kawkawlin more than once before my deposition was taken at Bay City; came to see me three times and asked me to go to the lawyer's office; asked me if I knew whether Mowry came to Kawkawlin; asked him what he wanted me to say if I went to the lawyer's office: he replied, I want you to tell all you know about Mowzy and this woman; Trombly said we all know that he was married to her; this talk was not in the lawyer's office; told him I knew all about it; was present when Brown was there, and interpreted for them; saw Mowry take the child in his arms; he said, "see my child, it looks like me;" this story Trombly wanted me to tell in the lawyer's office, when the lawyer asked me this I said, "Is this the case?" and he said "yes" then I looked in his face and said, "I can't swear to that, for the child wasn't born when Mowry was there;" Trombly was positive the child was born, but I would be very sorry to lie this much; Trombly told me it will do no harm if you say this, for we want to make our testimony strong; asked Trombly how much he was paid, and corruption are at work in this. And, gentleman of the jury, it is not the wife nor the daughter of Mowry whoappears to contest this invaluable claim, but a mere speculator, who has paid almost *nothing* to the alleged wife and child for their claims. Not only this, but we are prepared to show that even the paper which was given to these women as security, has been filched from them by Louis Tromly.

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THE TAXPAYERS' UNION.

Another Meeting of Executive Committee—Immediate Test of the Legality of the Late City Election to Be Made in Court.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Taxpayers' Union was held yesterday afternoon, Mr. Winn, Frew in the chair.

Mr. Riddell, from the Special Committee appointed to interview Mayor Blackmore, reported as follows:

ELECTION TEST IN COURT.

Your committee called upon Mayor Blackmore to-day, and presented the petition of citizens for his proclamation for a new election of city officers in February next. The Mayor respectfully declined the prayer of the petition, saying it was his first, and is still his abiding impression that the last election was premature, but he was pressed into issuing his proclamation then by a general desire for an election and by legal advice in its favor, and feels disinclined to reverse his action now, unless under a decision of the courts.

In view of this final decision of the Mayor, your committee offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That immediate legal action be taken to test in the courts the legality of the last city election.

Also, a resolution acknowledging contributions made within the past few days in aid of the cause of reform, and requesting citizens desiring to contribute to send to the Treasurer, Alex. King, Esq.

The chair questioned the propriety of affixing a resolution relative to the finances, to the report from the committee.

Mr. Riddell said the committee required means to prepare for the public meeting proposed, and as persons had come to the aid of the Union it was proper to give due acknowledgement.

On motion, the request was accepted and adopted.

OTHER REPORTS.

Mr. King, from the Finance Committee, reported that money was now coming in quite freely.

Mr. Norton stated that the Committee on Taxation and Classification would be ready to report at next meeting.

Mr. King, from the City Hall Committee, stated that the work of investigation was progressing, and at the next meeting of the Auditing Committee he thought his committee would bring the matter near a close. He did not deem it proper at this time to announce results expected.

Captain Ward submitted another opinion from Colonel James K. Kerr, giving at great length his views on the question of the legality of the late municipal election. The opinion was received with thanks.

Captain Ward, after a few remarks on the opinions already published, moved that Colonel Kerr be engaged to aid Mr. Marshall in bringing the question before the court.

It was suggested that the matter be referred to the committee already appointed on the legality of this election.

On motion of Mr. Finley, the matter was so referred.

Judge Mellon moved that Mr. R. J. Powers be recommended to the same committee. Carried.

Mr. Hugh M. Bole was added to the committee.

Considerable discussion took place as to the manner of testing the legality of the late city election. Mr. Finley was opposed to having any public meeting, and the general feeling was to submit the matter to the attorneys.

The matter was then referred to the hands of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Bole made some extended remarks upon taxation and opposed the issue of another million of bonds for the water works. He thought the old works would supply the city for ten years yet. He was also opposed to the great engines being constructed.

Judge Mellon, Mr. O'Keefe and Mr. Finley spoke upon the same subject. Mr. O'Keefe wanted an examination to ascertain whether or not the limit of the city indebtedness had been reached.

Adjourned.

Allegheny Street Committee.

This committee met last evening and transacted the following business:

The contractors for the Troy Hill road improvement were directed to place a board walk and railing over the road where water pipes lie.

The committee being informed that the Troy Hill road was almost completed, agreed to go over it on Monday afternoon and examine it.

Mr. Huckestine presented a copy of a transfer of his contract for the improvement of Henderson street, to McNaugher & Co. The reason assigned was that he (Huckestine) was a member of the Councils and could not legally fulfil the contract.

It was objected that a resolution had been passed at a former meeting that no contractor should be allowed to transfer a contract.

There not being a full committee present, the matter was postponed until next meeting.

A batch of unfinished business was then considered, and, on motion, referred to the Street Committee of next year's Councils.

The following, after considerable discussion, was passed:

Resolved, That after the passage of this resolution it shall be the duty of the Controller to notify according to law the parties assessed for the opening of Kerr street, to pay their assessments.

The committee decided to report favorably in regard to the operations of the Street Inspector, paying him a high compliment for the work done by him during the year.

The committee will meet on Monday afternoon and take a look at all the streets in process of improvement. After which another meeting will be held in the evening.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

MR. CHARLES H. BRADLEY leaves today for Florida, to join his family.

THE BRX works at Beaver will close as soon as the steel on hand is worked up.

THE personal property of the late Samuel M. Kier has been appraised at $162,313 84.

THE Grand Jury returned a true bill yesterday against Edward Darr for the murder of Thomas Dolan.

CONGRESSMAN BOOTH has completed the grading, paving and curbing of Colwell street.

THE boiling department of the Atlantic Iron Works, at Sharon, shut down several days ago.

THE Liquor Dealers Protective Association will elect officers at a meeting to be held this afternoon.

THE personal property of the late Wm. P. Forsyth, has been valued by appraisement at $160,382 95.

THE Water Committee of Pittsburgh Councils will hold a meeting to-morrow to close up the business of the year.

REESE, Brown & Berger's mills, at New Castle, all closed on Saturday, except the bar mills, which will finish this week.

THE miners about New Castle are idle more than half the time. They complain that there are too many men there for the work.

JAMES HISKS was committed last night, by Alderman Donaldson, for a hearing, on a charge of larceny, made by Samuel Slater.

A LAD named W. M. Mathney, yesterday, accidentally fell into the river opposite Tenth street, South Side, while playing with a skiff. He was rescued by a gentleman who witnessed the occurrence.

THE Woman's Suffrage Association will meet at the Temperance Alliance Rooms, corner Sixth street and Penn avenue, at 7½ o'clock this evening. Prominent speakers will be present.

DAVID BUMGARTEN, an employe attached to M'Cully's window glass factory, on the South Side, fell on a pile of broken glass, and cut the left side of his face in a frightful manner. He was taken to Dr. Thomas' office, where his wounds were properly dressed.

AN EXCITING runaway occurred yesterday afternoon, on Fifth avenue, a horse attached to a Wilson sewing machine wagon making good time on that thoroughfare, from Smithfield to Wood, where he was checked in his mad career and turned over to his driver.

Two ruffians got on a Pleasant Valley car Wednesday evening while on the bridge, and attempted to collect fares, one of them threatening to empty the car if the passengers didn't pay up. The conductor was not intimidated, however, and the car reached the end of the bridge, when the scamps scampered.

ONE of the leading attractions at the Fair which opened last evening at the First Presbyterian church lecture room, Diamond street, is the Art Gallery. The best paintings of nearly all of the artists of the city and vicinity are on exhibition, and the collection is well worth seeing.

THE fair for the benefit of St. Paul's Cathedral will open to-morrow evening in the basement of the cathedral. The preparations have not yet been completed, but judging by what has already been done the arrangements will be even more satisfactory than those of past seasons. The booths are being fitted up in the most elaborate and tasteful style, and we are informed that the display of attractions will be unusually fine.

THE Wheeling *Standard* says: One of the effects of the puddlers' lockout in Pittsburgh will be the cutting off of a large amount of the supply of iron and nails and an increase of the demand and probably the prices. The Pittsburgh custom will be transferred to the mills that continue to run, and, however much we may sympathize with our neighbor, we cannot help recognizing the fact that their loss is our gain."

A LETTER was received in the City Treasurer's office yesterday, evidently meant for Tom Phelps, which was addressed as follows, from Minnesota: "To Hoo it may consurn. Tax colecture of city Property, Fourth avenue, near Wood street." The writer says he owns a lot in the Twentieth ward, and wants to know its value. From the address, "Fourth avenue, nere Wood street," and the further fact that he says the "tax is About 10 Dollars Pr Annum," we should judge that the owner has not been in Pittsburgh for some years, and knows nothing of our City Hall.

Commence With the New Year

to keep a bank account. Franklin Savings Bank, Allegheny, allows interest on time deposits. One dollar and upwards received.

THE WATER COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

An Alleged Discrepancy Explained.

Some of the city papers have called attention to an alleged discrepancy in the report of the Water Committee, submitted at the last meeting of Select Council. According to this report, Messrs. Snyder & Co. have been paid $32,725 89 under the boiler contract. Messrs. Snyder & Co. have informed some of the newspaper men that they had received but $27,142 84, although they claimed as due the full amount reported as having been paid.

Now the truth of the matter is, as we learn from Mr. Mitchell, chairman of the Water Committee, that in the report of the Secretary, was an item of $38,637 16, made up of estimates for November, 1874, which had not yet been approved by the committee. The Secretary, presuming that these estimates would all be approved, included them as virtually paid on the first of the month. When the October and November estimates of Messrs. Snyder & Co. came before the committee, they were laid over on account of the "mud-drum" trouble. These two estimates amounted to $5,583 05. The committee having refused to pass these bills, Messrs. Snyder & Co. are of course just that much short of the full amount estimated as due them. But this sum, ($5,583 05,) not having been authorized to be paid, remains in the Treasury to the credit of the Water extension fund, and increases the amount of cash on hand, over and above the balance reported by the committee, just to that extent. The "discovery" alluded to was a mere "mare's nest."

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Mr. Jefferson takes his farewell benefit this evening, in "Rip Van Winkle." The same piece will be repeated to-morrow afternoon and evening.

Mr. Frank E. Aiken, the popular young actor, who has been for many years an established favorite in Chicago as an actor and manager, will make his first appearance in this city on Monday evening next, at the Opera House. Mr. Aiken has purchased the exclusive right to Bartley Campbell's new and successful drama entitled "The Virginian." This drama created quite a furore in dramatic circles on its first production in Chicago, and is pronounced by all as the most graphic picture of American life ever written. It is a happy intermingling of pathos and humor, and the plot and incidents are said to be entirely novel and original. Mr. Aiken is admirably adapted to the requirements of the hero of the piece, "Van, of Virginia," and as the management are bestowing additional care in the mounting of the play, we predict a brilliant engagement. The piece will run the whole of next week.

The Germania Matinee.

Lovers of first class orchestral music should not forget that the third of the Germania Orchestra's matinees will be given at Library Hall, this afternoon. The orchestra has attained great proficiency under the leadership of Prof. Toerge, and their entertainments are well worthy of patronage.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

Those who enjoy variety performances, as most people do, will be pleased with that now given nightly at Trimble's Variety Theater. The Faust family are notably excellent, while the company generally are good.

Duprez & Benedict's Minstrels.

The coming of Duprez & Benedict during holiday week will give genuine pleasure to all lovers of minstrelsy. The company is one of the oldest and best in existence, and one that always attracts overflowing houses here. The prices of admission are low enough to suit the depression of the times. Seats can be secured at Hale's Music store, 103 Smithfield street.

The Academy of Music.

Marietta Ravel and her dramatic company will occupy the stage of the Academy next week, when a number of new plays will be produced.

Best Flours in the Market

are the Pearl Steam Mills two star, made from best Kentucky white wheat; Pittsburgh City Mills and Eclipse, made from Kentucky amber and Michigan white wheat, all manufactured and guaranteed by Marshall, Kennedys & Co.

N. B.—See that the firm's name is on each barrel or sack. MWFS

Original and Valuable

oil paintings, by distinguished artists, for sale at auction this evening, at Gillespie's Art Gallery, No. 86 Wood street.

The Election of Officers

of the Liquor Dealers' Protective Association will be held at the regular meeting, at Maltby Hall, to-day at 2 o'clock P. M.

INSTRUCTIVE GIFT BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

American Pioneer and Patriot Series.

CAPTAIN KIDD,
OR
OTHER BUCCANEERS
BY
JOHN S. C. ABBOTT.

1 Vol., 12mo., Illustrated, $1 50.

The career of this pirates who nearly two centuries ago, so extensively ravaged both sea and land, presents one of the most extraordinary narratives in the history of the world.

This one volume tells the story of Captain Kidd, the respectable New York merchant who, having been commissioned to act against the pirates, was himself made their chief; of Stede Bonnet, the rich and cultivated gentleman; of Blackbeard, the brutal fiend; of Teignmouth Barthelmy, whose deeds of cruelty and blood cause the ear which hears them to tingle; of Alan Spedy, the young pirate who commands sympathy; of Anne Bonny, whose character excites our abhorrence; of Sir Henry Morgan, who, by reward for his atrocious deeds, is knighted by Charles II.; and of Montbars, the Monk, who caused himself to be sewn up in a messenger to avenge the wrongs inflicted by the Spaniards upon the Indians.

It would be difficult to find anywhere, within the same compass, such a recital of marvelous adventures.

Previously published in the series, book 1 vol., 12mo., illustrated, $1 50:

Daniel Boone.	Ferdinand De Soto.
Miles Standish.	Peter Stuyvesant.
David Crockett.	Kit Carson.
	Paul Jones.

For sale by S. A. CLARKE & CO., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Attend the Picture Sale

at Gillespie's Art Gallery, No. 86 Wood street, to-night. Fine paintings, by Pittsburgh artists, can be bought very low.

Blankets.

Country blankets very cheap at H. J. Lynch's, No. 96 Market street.

Gillespie's Art Sale.

The sale of fine paintings at the Art Gallery of J. J. Gillespie & Co., No. 86 Wood street, has thus far been a thorough success. Quite a number of pictures have been sold at fair prices. These paintings, however, will be sold not a whit inferior to those that have found purchasers, and as no such an opportunity will be offered until the next annual sale at Gillespie's, you should be present on the remaining evenings that the sale continues. The sale closes Saturday evening.

Black Goods

Great bargains in black cashmeres, mohairs and alpacas, at H. J. Lynch's, No. 96 Market street.

Watches and Jewelry for the Holidays.

The finest assortment of cameo and coral jewelry, watches and diamonds to be found in Pittsburgh is at the popular establishment of Mr. W. W. Wattles, No. 70 Fifth avenue. Mr. Wattles exercises fine taste in the selection of the goods which he now offers to the public, and as his establishment in this city are superior inducements offered, either in stock or in prices. We would specially note the fact that the collection of watches at this house is the largest and most varied one that we have examined during the present season. It includes all styles, ranging in price from a few dollars up to three hundred, each one being a reliable time keeper. Mr. Wattles is a practical man, and it is not likely that the goods will hereafter be offered as low as now.

Cloaks.

English walking jackets, sacques and shawls selling at reduced prices at H. J. Lynch's dry goods store, No. 96 Market street.

Photographic Celebrities.

61 Fifth avenue.

Sweet Cider all the Year Round.

Sweet Cider all the Year Round.
Sulphite of Lime
Sulphite of Lime

will keep cider sweet and in excellent condition for any length of time. Persons desirous of preserving this wholesome beverage during the fall and winter can do so at a very small cost, by using this preparation. It does not affect the taste or change the character of the cider in the least degree, and its use is recommended by very little trouble. Sold very cheap, wholesale and retail, by

McCLARREN & McKENNAN,
Druggists, 85 Market street.

Also, 67 Fifth avenue, and at corner Smithfield and Fifth avenue, dealers in and druggists of pure drugs, chemicals, trusses, braces, French and English perfumery and soaps, Saunders' face powder, Atkinson's White Rose, Lubin's extracts and soaps, best English hair and tooth brushes, Buffalo horn combs, fine sponges, English and Scotch ales and Dublin porter, Scotch oatmeal. All genuine and at low prices.

Free of Charge.

Your Druggist will refund your money if Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup does not give you satisfaction and cure your cough.

**Holi